GEOGRAPHY

MADE EASY FOR

CHILDREN,

IMPROVED FROM THE

CIRCLE OF THE SCIENCES,

CONTAINING THE NEW DISCOVERIES, &c.

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PREFACE.

THERE is no need of uſing many arguments to reccommend the ſtudy of a ſcience ſo uſeful and entertaining as that of GEOGRAPHY; and therefore it is not a little ſurpriſing to ſee how ſhamefully it is neglected amongſt us. Not only the generality of children are brought up without the leaſt idea of it; but too many grown perſons, even amongſt the better ſort of people, never entertain a thought of improving themſelves in this pleaſant and profitable branch of learning.

It is confeſſed on all hands, that the knowledge of hiſtory is one of the beſt accompliſhments we can poſſeſs; it gives us experience

without grey hairs, and makes us wise at the labour and expence of others. But in order to this it is absolutely necessary to have some previous knowledge of the rudiments of Geography, which together with Chronology, has been justly termed the eyes and feet of history. 'Without Geography and Chronology, (says the celebrated Mr. Locke, in his excellent Treatise on Education) history, which is the great mistress of prudence and civil knowledge, and ought to be the proper study of a young gentleman, will be very ill retained, and very little useful; but be only a jumble of matters of fact, confusedly heaped together, without order or instruction.'

The late M. Rollin, who has laid down very good rules for the education of youth, advises that a certain portion of the day be devoted to Geography. 'Children (says he) will find this a diversion rather than a study, if the instructor is able to enliven it with short and agreeable histories, and curious events, relating to the several cities and countries through which he travels in imagination—and the map must always be made use of, for this is an ocular Science.—Suppose (continues he) I were to give a scholar, who is acquainted with the common terms of the art, an idea of Asia. In this case I should only make him coast it; informing him, at the same time, of the

'ſeveral particulars remarkable in every 'country. "Aſia (I would ſay to him) be-"gins where Africa ends: They are joined "by the Iſthmus of Suez, which you ſee ſi-"tuated between the Mediterranean and "the Red Sea: This Sea was ſo called from "the Idumeans who dwelt near it, a people "deſcended from Eſau or Edom, whoſe "name ſignifies red, or red-hair'd. Ara-"bia, which is waſhed by that ſea, is divided "into three regions, the Stony, the Deſert, "and the Happy. the Stony Arabia lies "here at the extremity or towards the "bottom of the Red Sea: It was in this "country the Iſraelites lived forty years, af-"ter paſſing through the Red Sea on dry "land, &c." By this means theſe lectures 'will be an amuſement to the ſcholar, who 'muſt alſo neceſſarily treaſure them up in his 'memory, without doing it any violence. 'After the youth has made ſome progreſs in 'Geography, it will be proper for his maſter 'to travel with him on the map; to con-'vey him (for inſtance) over ſea from Paris 'to Rome, and bring him back to Paris by 'land a quite different way. Theſe little 'changes are a diverſion to the ſcholar; and 'he may be taught, in his different voyages 'and travels, a thouſand curioſities relating 'to the ſeveral places through which he 'paſſes.'

Let us hear another excellent judge of this matter, I mean the Rev. Dr. Watts, who, among the ſciences that will more agreeably employ our younger years, the general parts of which may be eaſily taken in by boys, reckons that of Geography. 'The firſt principles (ſays he) and eaſier 'practices of arithmetic—the rudiments 'of Geography and Aſtronomy, together 'with ſomething of mechanics, may be eaſily 'conveyed into the minds of acute young 'perſons from nine or ten years old and upwards. Theſe ſtudies may be entertaining 'and uſeful to young ladies, as well as to 'gentlemen, and to all thoſe who are bred 'up to the learned profeſſions. The fair 'ſex may intermingle theſe with the operations of the needle and the knowledge of 'domeſtic life. Boys may be taught to join 'them with their rudiments of Grammar, 'and their labour in the languages. And 'even thoſe, who never learn any language 'but their mother-tongue, may be taught 'the ſciences with laſting benefit in early 'day.

The ſame learned and judicious author obſerves, that 'when we have firſt gone 'through any of thoſe arts and ſciences 'which are to be explained by diagrams, 'figures and ſchemes, ſuch as Geography, 'Aſtronomy, &c. we may beſt preſerve them 'in memory by having thoſe ſchemes and

'figures in large ſheets of paper hanging al-
'ways before the eye in cloſets, parlours,
'halls, &c. for theſe will keep the le rning
'that depends upon them alive and freſh in
'the mind through the growing years of
'life, and will ever recal to our thoughts
'thoſe theorems, problems, and corol'aries
'which have been demonſtrated by them. It is
'an incredible deal of Geography (conti-
'nues he) may be learnt this way by the two
'terreſtrial hemiſpheres, and by particular
'maps and charts of the coaſts and coun-
'tries of the earth happily diſpoſed round
'about us.' It is therefore to be wiſhed that people in general would adorn their rooms with ſuch inſtructive ornaments as theſe, rather than with leſs uſeful, or perhaps pernicious prints and paintings. In the preſent day, we may add that a brief knowledge may be obtained from diſſected maps.

As to the origin of Geography, it is not of a late date, nor was it brought into the world at one birth or invented by one man; but its foundations were laid many ages ago. The old Geographers indeed were only employed in deſcribing particular countries, either in whole or in part. The Romans, when they had ſubdued any province, uſed to delineate their new conqueſt on a table flouriſhing it round with pictures, and thus expoſe it to the ſpectators in their triumphs.

About a hundred years before the birth of our Saviour the Senate of Rome ſent Geographers and Surveyors into ſeveral parts of the earth, that they might meaſure the whole: though they ſcarce viſited a twentieth part of it. And Alexander the Great, as Pliny informs us, took along with him two Geographers in his Aſiatic expedition, to meaſure and delineate his marches; whoſe journals and obſervations were of great ſervice to the Geographers of ſucceeding ages. But notwithſtanding all this, the Geography of the antients was very imperfect, and full of falſe relations; becauſe they knew little or nothing, at leaſt nothing certain, of thoſe places of the earth which are of moſt conſequence to be known. The moderns have corrected many of their errors, and have very much improved Geography, by opening a paſſage into a New world, (i. e. America) and by diſcovering that thoſe parts of the old were inhabited, which were formerly thought uninhabitable; for it is now known that vaſt numbers of people live under the Torrid Zone, the heat whereof is moderate by refreſhing ſhowers, conſtant breezes, and cool nights; and the globe itſelf has been ſeveral times ſailed round both by Engliſhmen and foreigners though many parts of it remain yet undiſcovered. In the laſt place, the invention of teleſcopes about the beginning of the laſt century, ſince which time great

improvements have been made in thoſe inſtruments, has contributed very much to the perfection of Geography, by enabling the learned to make accurate aſtronomical obſervations, by which better maps and charts have been laid down than ever the world could boaſt of before.

With reſpect to our preſent work, we ſhall ſay nothing in its praiſe, but leave the public to judge of its merit: Let it be conſidered, however, that it is chiefly deſigned for young beginners in the ſtudy of Geography, and that a fuller Deſcription of the world could not be expected in ſo narrow a compaſs. And the reader is likewiſe deſired to take notice, that as a part of Europe is at preſent in a ſtate of war, ſome towns may poſſibly have changed their maſters ſince the following ſheets were printed off; he will therefore make proper allowances in this reſpect, and either excuſe or correct what may be neceſſary on that account.

Geographical Terms &

rms & Figures Illustrated.

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GEOGRAPHY.

PART. I.

Containing a general Account of the Globe both natural and artificial; geographical Definitions, Problems, Paradoxes, &c.

CHAP. I.

Geography designed; the Figure of the Earth, its Magnitude, and Motion.

Q. WHAT is geography?

A. A deſcription of the ſurface of the earth, or terraqueous globe, as it conſiſts of land and water.—In this ſenſe it is generally underſtood; but, in a more ſtrict way of ſpeaking, the deſcription of the watery parts of the earth's ſurface, as ſeas, gulphs, rivers, &c. is called Hydrography.

Q. What is the form or figure of the earth?

A. It is of a round figure, but ſomething flatter towards the north and ſouth than in

other parts; ſo that its diameter that way is rather leſs than from eaſt to weſt. But this nicety is not obſerved in forming an artificial globe.

Q. How large is the earth?

A. It is about twenty-five thouſand miles in circumference, and almoſt eight thouſand miles in diameter.

Q. Does the earth move?

A. Yes; it has two motions: the one round the ſun, which it performs yearly, and is therefore called its annual motion: the other round its own axis, which is compleated in twenty-four hours, and is called its diurnal motion. To the former we owe (in part) the change of the ſeaſons, and to the latter the alternate ſucceſſion of day and night.——But this more properly belongs to aſtronomy.

CHAP. II.

Of the Diviſion of the Globe, with reſpect to its two great Parts, Land and Water.

Q. YOU ſay the globe conſiſts of land and water; are not theſe divided into leſſer parts?

A. Yes; the land is ſubdivided into continents, iſlands, peninſulas, iſthmuſes, promontories, mountains, &c. and the water into oceans, ſeas, gulphs, ſtreights, lakes, rivers, &c.

Q. What is the meaning of theſe names?

A. A continent is a vaſt tract of land, comprehending divers countries, kingdoms, and ſtates, not ſeparated by the ſea, but contiguous to each other.—An iſland is a tract of land entirely ſurrounded with water.—A peninſula is a ſpace of land encompaſſed by water, all but one ſmall part.—This ſmall part, or narrow neck of land, which joins it to the continent, is called an iſthmus.——A promontory is a high part of land ſtretching out into the ſea, the extremity whereof is uſually termed a cape or head-land.—A mountain is a part of the earth riſing to a conſiderable height above the level of its ſurface.

As to the diviſion of the aqueous part of the globe: the ocean is a vaſt body of water encompaſſing the whole earth; but this is ſubdivided into ſeveral oceans, which have different names.—A ſea is a part of the ocean flowing between iſlands, or almoſt ſurrounded by land.—A gulph is a part of the ſea running up within land, and encompaſſed with it, except one paſſage whereby it communicates with the open ſea or ocean. A ſtreight is a narrow paſſage either joining a gulph to the neighbouring ſea or ocean, or one part of a ſea or ocean to another.—A lake is a large quantity of deep ſtanding water, ſurrounded with land, and having no viſible communication with the ſea; but ſome lakes receive and emit rivers.—A river is a conſiderable ſtream

of freſh water, iſſuing from one or more ſprings, and gliding from thence into the ſea or ocean.

CHAP. III.

Of the Artificial Globe.

Q. WHICH is the beſt way to attain a right knowledge of our globe?

A. You will form the trueſt idea of the natural globe by viewing and ſtudying an artificial one.

Q. What is an artificial globe?

A. It is a round body, made by art, on the ſurface of which the outward parts of the whole earth and ſea are delineated, and placed in their natural order and ſituation.—This is called a terreſtrial globe, to diſtinguiſh it from a celeſtial one, upon the ſurface whereof, the moſt noted ſtars and the images of the conſtellations are depicted, being a repreſentation of the ſtarry firmament. But our preſent buſineſs is only with the former.

Q. What are the principal things to be explained in order to underſtand the globe?

A. The firſt things to be conſidered are its axis and poles.

Q. What is its axis?

A. It is a ſtrait line paſſing through the centre of the earth, round which the whole

frame thereof is ſuppoſed to revolve, or turn round in twenty-four hours. This line is only imaginary in the natural globe, but in an artificial one it is expreſſed by the wire, upon which it really turns.

Q. What are the poles?

A. The two extremities or ends of the axis, one of which is called the north or arctic, and the other the ſouth or antarctic pole. They are named poles from a Greek word ſignifying to turn.

Q. Are there not ſeveral circles about a globe?

A. Yes; in order to determine the relative ſituations of places upon the earth, and for other purpoſes, the natural globe is ſurrounded with many imaginary circles, the chief whereof are eight in number, and are divided into greater and leſſer. The four greater circles are the equator, the ecliptic, the meridian, and the horizon. The leſſer are the two tropics, and the two polar circles. But on the artificial globe, theſe circles are real.

Q. What is the equator?

A. It is that great circle which divides the globe into two equal parts, called the northern and ſouthern hemiſpheres. The word hemiſphere ſignifies half a globe.

Q. Has the equator any other name?

A. Yes; it is alſo called the equinoctial line, becauſe when the ſun is in this circle the days and nights are of an equal length all

over the globe. It is likewiſe ſimply called the line, by way of eminence, eſpecially amongſt mariners.

Q. What is the ecliptic?

A. A great circle which cuts the equator obliquely, or ſlant ways, and repreſents the apparent annual path of the ſun through the heavens. I ſay the apparent path, becauſe to us the ſun appears to move round the earth, though in reality it is the earth moves round the ſun. But in order to be underſtood, we are obliged to ſpeak in a manner adapted to the apprehenſions of the generality of mankind. Thus, becauſe the ſun ſeems to move, we ſay he is in ſuch a part of the ecliptic, without attributing any motion to the earth; and for the ſame reaſon we ſay the ſun riſes, or the ſun ſets, by which we mean that he begins to appear or diſappear, without conſidering how theſe effects are produced.

Q. How far does the ecliptic decline from the equator?

A. It declines from it twenty-three degrees and an half towards the north, and as much towards the ſouth; for ſo far the ſun goes to the ſouth of the equator in the midſt of our winter, and comes ſo far to the north of it in the middle of our ſummer.

Q. What is meant by degrees and minutes?

A. Every circle is ſuppoſed to be divided into 360 equal parts called degrees; each degree into 60 equal parts called minutes; the

minute into 60 others called ſeconds, &c.—In common computation we reckon a mile to a minute, and ſixty miles to a degree; but, according to the moſt accurate calculations, a degree of a great circle (i. e. of the earth's circumference) is about 69 Engliſh miles and a half nearly, each mile conſiſting of 5280 feet. For the ſake of brevity, degrees are commonly expreſſed by a cypher, and minutes and ſeconds by acute accents: thus 15°, 18′. 4″, is fifteen degrees, eight minutes, and four ſeconds.

Q. Is not the ecliptic divided into ſeveral parts?

A. Yes; it is divided into twelve parts called ſigns, each ſign being thirty degrees. Theſe diviſions take their names from ſeveral conſtellations in the heavens, which are moſt of them repreſented by the figure of ſome living creature; and that broad circle wherein theſe conſtellations are placed, extending ſome degrees on each ſide of the ecliptic, is termed the zodiac; for the ecliptic is the middle of the zodiac, from whence the ſun never deviates. The names and characters of the twelve ſigns are *aries* ♈, the ram; the *taurus* ♉, the bull; *gemini* ♊, the twins; *cancer* ♋, the crab; *leo* ♌, the lion; *virgo* ♍, the virgin; *libra* ♎, the balance; *ſcorpio* ♏, the ſcorpion; *ſagitarius* ♐, the archer; *capricornus* ♑, the goat; *aquarius* ♒, the waterer; and *piſces* ♓, the fiſhes. The ſix firſt mentioned ſigns are on the north

of the equator, and the other ſix on the ſouth.

Q. What is the meridian?

A. It is a great circle paſſing through the two poles, and dividing the globe equally into the eaſtern and weſtern hemiſpheres. This is the brazen circle in which the artificial globe turns round upon the two extremities of its axis; but there are other meridians drawn upon the globe itſelf, which are thoſe ſemicircles terminating in both the poles. In effect, as the meridian correſponds to that part of the heavens where the centre of the ſun is at noon, it conſequently varies, as any place is more eaſt or weſt; ſo that we may conceive as many meridians as there are points in the equator. The meridians are commonly drawn upon the terreſtrial globe, through every fifteen degrees of the equator, thereby making an hour difference betwixt the places through which they paſs. And to ſhew the difference of time between any two meridians, this braſs meridian is provided with a little brazen circle, having an index moveable round the axis of the globe, to be turned to any particular hour; which from its uſe is called the hour-circle.

Q. Whence has the meridian its name?

A. From *meridies*, which ſignifies noon, or mid-day.

Q. What is the horizon?

A. It is a great circle dividing the globe into two equal parts, termed the upper and

lower hemiſpheres. But this circle is diſtinguiſhed into two ſorts, the ſenſible and the rational. The ſenſible horizon is the circle which limits or terminates our proſpect, when viewing the heavens round from any part of the globe, either at land or ſea; or it is that circle where the ſky and the earth or water ſeem to meet.—The rational horizon is the great circle above deſcribed, which paſſes through the centre of the earth, and whoſe poles are called the Zenith and Nadir.

Q. What is the meaning of thoſe words?

A. The zenith is that point of the heavens exactly over our heads, and the nadir is that exactly under our feet.

Q. Whence is the word horizon derived?

A. From a Greek word which ſignifies to bound or terminate, becauſe it bounds our ſight.

Q. How is the rational horizon repreſented on the artificial globe?

A. By the upper ſurface of the wooden frame wherein the globe is placed. Upon this horizon are drawn ſeveral concentric circles, i. e. having a common centre, the innermoſt of which is the amplitude circle, the uſe whereof is to ſhew in what degree the ſun or any ſtar riſes and ſets from the true eaſt and weſt points of the horizon. Without the forementioned circle is drawn the ecliptic with its diviſions into ſigns and degrees, and a circle of months and days. Theſe two circles ſerve

as a calendar to ſhew the ſun's place at any time of the year, and by that means to find his place in the ecliptic drawn upon the globe itſelf. The thirty-two winds, or points of the compaſs, are likewiſe commonly noted on ſome part of this wooden horizon.

Q. Are there any other appurtenances belonging to an artificial globe?

A. Yes, there is a quadrant of altitude which is a thin flexible plate of braſs, having a nut and ſcrew at one end to be faſtened to the brazen meridian as occaſion requires. The edge of this quadrant is divided into ninety degrees exactly anſwering to a fourth part of the equator. What uſe it is of will appear in the ſolution of ſeveral problems hereafter.—To the appurtenances of the globe we ought to add the mariner's compaſs, an inſtrument very uſeful for placing the globe in any direction we pleaſe, according to the problem we intend to ſolve.

Q. What are the tropics?

A. They are two leſſer circles running parallel to the equator, and touching the ecliptic at 23° 30′, on each ſide. That on the north is called the tropic of cancer, and that on the ſouth the tropic of capricorn, from their touching the ecliptic at thoſe two ſigns.—When the ſun is in cancer we have the longeſt day, and when he is in capricorn the ſhorteſt; and theſe times are called the ſolſtices, becauſe the ſun being then at his greateſt diſtance from

the equator, ſeems to ſtand ſtill awhile, before he purſues his courſe again to the north or to the ſouth.

Q. Why are theſe circles called tropics?

A. From a Greek word which ſignifies to turn, becauſe they are the limits of the ſun's annual courſe, and when he arrives at either of them he returns back again towards the equator.

Q. What are the polar circles?

A. They are two leſſer circles, which alſo run parallel to the equator, and are at the ſame diſtance from the poles as the tropics are from the equator, viz. 23 degrees 30 minutes. That which is towards the north is alſo ſometimes called the arctic circle, from a Greek word which ſignifies a bear, the conſtellation of that name lying near the north pole; and the other on the ſouth is termed the antarctic circle, as being directly oppoſite to the former.

CHAP. IV.

Of Zones, Climates, Latitude and Longitude, and the various Denominations of the Inhabitants of the Globe.

Q. WHAT are the zones?

A. They are large tracts of the earth's ſurface, diſtinguiſhed by the tropics and polar circles, being five in number, viz. one torrid, two temperate, and two frigid.

Q. What is meant by the torrid zone?

A. The ſame as hot and ſcorched; for this being the ſpace comprehended between the tropics, and divided by the equator, the ſun going perpendicularly over it, makes the heat exceſſive: upon which account the ancients imagined this part of the earth to be uninhabitable.

Q. What are the temperate zones?

A. Thoſe which lie on either ſide of the globe, between the tropics and polar circles, where the ſun's heat is moderate.

Q. Which are the frigid zones?

A. Thoſe included within the polar circles, being ſo denominated from the extreme cold to which they are ſubject moſt part of the year.

Q. What is the meaning of the word zone?

A. It ſignifies a girdle, or broad belt, like which the zones ſeem to encompaſs the globe.

Q. What are climates?

A. They are certain tracts of the earth's ſurface, bounded by circles running parallel to the equator, and of ſuch a breadth that the longeſt day in the one exceeds that in the other by half an hour.

Q. How many climates are there?

A. Twenty-four on each ſide of the equator, ariſing from the difference of half an hour in the longeſt day. Theſe reach as far as the polar circles, from whence to the poles themſelves are reckoned ſix more climates, wherein the difference is an entire month, the ſun being ſeen

in the firſt of theſe a whole month without ſetting, in the ſecond two months, in the third three, &c. As the climates commence from the equator, the firſt climate, at its beginning, has its longeſt day preciſely twelve hours long, and at its end twelve hours and a half; the ſecond, which begins where the firſt ends, viz. at twelve hours and a half, ends at thirteen hours: and ſo of the reſt, as far as the polar circles.

Q. What is the meaning of the word climate?

A. It is derived from a Greek word which ſignifies to incline, becauſe in numbering of them they incline from the equator towards either pole.

Q. What are the circles called which are drawn parallel to the equator towards the two poles?

A. They are called parallels of latitude.

Q. What is meant by latitude?

A. The latitude of any place (upon the earth) is its diſtance from the equator towards either of the poles, which is meaſured in degrees on the meridian, and is called north or ſouth latitude, according as the place is in the northern or ſouthern hemiſphere. Now as the meridian is divided into four quadrants, that is, four equal parts, each containing ninety degrees, it is plain that no place on the globe can have above ninety degrees of latitude, each pole being juſt ſo many degrees diſtant from the equator. Theſe degrees are numbered on the brazen meridian of an artificial globe.

Q. What is longitude?

A. It is the diſtance of a place from ſome firſt meridian, meaſured on the equator from weſt to eaſt. The fixing of a firſt meridian, from whence the degrees of longitude are to be counted, is a matter purely arbitrary. It is frequently placed in the iſland Ferro, one of the Canaries, but the geographers of different nations ſometimes chuſe the meridian paſſing through the metropolis of their own country for their firſt; as the Engliſh that of London, the French that of Paris, &c. It ſeems the beſt way to reckon longitude both eaſtward and weſtward from the firſt meridian to 180 degrees, which is the greateſt diſtance that a place can be at from any given meridian; but ſometimes longitude is counted eaſterly quite round the globe, which is 360 degrees. It is to be obſerved, that the degrees of latitude are all of an equal extent, but thoſe of longitude are only ſo at the equator, from whence they diminiſh gradually as they approach the poles, where all the meridians or lines of longitude unite.

Q. In what proportion do the degrees of longitude decreaſe?

A. Reckoning 60 geographical miles to a degree, (which is uſually done for the ſake of eaſe in computation) from the equator to the thirtieth degree of latitude, the degrees of longitude loſe by little and little about eight miles; from thence to the ſixtieth degree, about

twenty-two miles; and from thence to the poles, the other twenty-eight; for there they come to nothing, as will be eaſily conceived by viewing the artificial globe or a map of the world.

Q. You ſay that the inhabitants of the earth have various denominations; what are they, and whence?

A. Firſt, With reſpect to their relative ſituations to one another, they are called Antœci, Periœci, and Antipodes.

Q. What is the meaning of theſe ſeveral names?

A. 1. The Antœci are thoſe who live under the ſame meridian, but oppoſite parallels: being equally diſtant from the equator, but on different ſides. Their ſeaſons of the year are contrary, it being winter to the one when ſummer to the other; and the days of the one are equal to the other's nights, but the time of noon and midnight is the ſame with both. Thoſe who live under the equator have no Antœci.—2. The periœci, are thoſe who live under the ſame parallels, but oppoſite meridians. Theſe have their ſeaſons of the year at the ſame time, and their days and nights always of the ſame length with one another; but the one's noon is the other's midnight. Thoſe who live under the poles it is evident can have no periœci.—3. The Antipodes are thoſe people who live under oppoſite parallels and meridians, and walk with their feet diametrically oppoſite

to one another. These have their days and nights, and their seasons of the year, directly contrary.

Q. How are the inhabitants of the earth otherwise distinguished?

A. With respect to the diversity of their shadows they are distinguished into Amphiscii, Periscii, and Heteroscii.

Q. What is the meaning of these names?

A. 1. The Amphiscii are those who inhabit the torrid zone, being so called because their noon-shadow sometimes falls to the north, and sometimes to the south, according as the sun is to the northward or southward of their zenith. And as the sun is sometimes in their zenith, that is, directly over their heads, they are also called Ascii, because then they have no shadow at all.—2. The Periscii, are the inhabitants of the Frigid Zones, so called because at some time of the year their shadows fall all round them in twenty-four hours, the sun keeping above their horizon for weeks or months together.—3. The Heteroscii are those who live in the temperate zones, and are so called because their noon-shadow is always cast the same way, that is, either towards the north, as it is with us; or to the south, as with those who inhabit the temperate zone on the south of the equator.

This distinction of the inhabitants of the earth, with respect to their shadows, is ancient, but trifling in itself; and we only mention it in compliance with custom.

CHAP. V.

Of the different Spheres, or Positions of the Globe.

Q. HOW many spheres are there?

A. Since the horizon, and consequently the face of the heavens, or sphere of the world, is different according to the different situation of places upon the earth, this diversity is considered three ways, with regard to so many positions of the horizon to the equator; for these circles may be either parallel, perpendicular, or oblique to each other, and thence we have a parallel, a right, and an oblique sphere.

Q. What is a parallel sphere?

A. It is such a position of the globe as that the equator coincides with the horizon, and the poles are in the zenith and nadir. The inhabitants therefore of this sphere (if there be any) are those who live under the poles of the world; for to them the equator and horizon are the same, and they have six months day, and six months night.

Q. What is a right sphere?

A. A right or direct sphere is when the equator is perpendicular to the horizon, cutting it at right angles; so that the horizon passes through the poles, and the equator through the zenith and nadir. Those who

live under the equator have ſuch a ſphere, and their days and nights are always equal.

Q. What is an oblique ſphere?

A. It is when the horizon cuts the equator obliquely, one of the poles being above the horizon, and the other below it. This obliquility occaſions the inequality of days and nights; for thoſe who live under an oblique ſphere (as we do) never have their days and nights equal, except in the equinoxes, that is, when the ſun enters in to either of the equinoctial points, which are thoſe where the equator and the ecliptic interſect each other. This is the caſe twice a year, viz. about the 20th of March and the 23d of September; the firſt of which is called the vernal, and the ſecond the autumnal equinox.

CHAP. VI.

Of Maps.

Q. WHAT is a map?

A. It is a plain or flat figure, repreſenting the whole ſurface of the globe, or a part thereof, according to the rules of perſpective. Maps are generally engraven on copper, and printed upon paper. They are intended to ſhew us the forms and dimenſions of countries, the courſes of rivers, and the ſituation of cities, towns, mountains, &c.

Q. Are not maps diſtinguiſhed into different ſorts?

A. Yes, they are diſtinguiſhed into univerſal and particular. The firſt ſort are thoſe which exhibit the whole ſurface of the earth, or the two hemiſpheres, commonly called maps of the world. The latter ſort are thoſe which repreſent ſome particular country or part thereof.—Thoſe which repreſent only the ſeas and ſea-coaſts are properly called charts.

Q. What are the principal things required in a map?

A. 1. That all places have their juſt ſituation with regard to the chief circles of the globe, as the equator, meridians, parallels, &c, becauſe on theſe depend many properties of regions, as well as celeſtial phænomena. 2. That the magnitudes of the ſeveral countries have the ſame proportion as thoſe on the ſurface of the earth. 3. That the ſeveral places have the ſame diſtances and ſituation with regard to each other, as on the earth itſelf.

Q. How ſhall I know the diſtances of places by a map?

A. The diſtances of places eaſt or weſt from ſome firſt meridian (which is their longitude) are generally numbered in degrees on the top and bottom of a map; and their diſtance from the equator to the north or ſouth (which is their latitude) is expreſſed in degrees

on each ſide of the map. As to maps of the world, the degrees of longitude are numbered on the equator, and thoſe of latitude round each hemiſphere from the equator to the poles. —Beſides this there is uſually a ſcale of miles in ſome vacant part of a map, by which the diſtance of one place from another is eaſily found.

Q. What is a ſcale of miles?

A. It is a line divided into equal parts, each anſwering to a mile, or a certain number of miles, according to the map it is made for. So that to find the diſtance between any two places in a map, you are to meaſure the interval by a pair of compaſſes, and then apply them to the ſcale, the diviſions whereof will ſhew the diſtance required.

Q. But how ſhall I know whether the place lie eaſt or weſt, north or ſouth, of one another?

A. This appears by inſpection, the top of a map being north, the bottom ſouth, the right hand eaſt, and the left weſt; unleſs the compaſs, or flower-de luce, which is generally placed in ſome part of a map, ſhew the contrary; for that always points to the north on a map.

CHAP. VII.

The Solution of ſome uſeful and entertaining Problems on the Terreſtrial Globe.

Q. WHAT is the uſe of an artificial globe?

A. It is of great uſe (as I have intimated before) to give us an eaſy and ſpeedy acquaintance with the earth on which we live, as it ſets a repreſentation of it before our eyes, and exhibits the ſeveral parts of it in their true ſituations, figures, and proportions. Beſides this, it ſerves to explain ſeveral phænomena relating to the earth, its inhabitants, the ſeaſons, &c. as will appear by the following problems and their ſolutions, for which we are chiefly indebted to Mr. Gordon.

PROBLEM I. *To find the Longitude and Latitude of any Place delineated on the Globe.*

Turn the globe round its axis till you have brought the given place to the eaſtern ſide of the brazen meridian; then that degree of the meridian which is directly over it, is the latitude required, and that degree of the equator which is cut by the brazen meridian is the longitude from the firſt meridian inſcribed upon the globe.

PROB. II. *The Longitude and Latitude being given, to find the Place.*

Find the given longitude on the equator, and bring that point to the brazen meridian, then reckon from the equator on the meridian, the degree of latitude given, (whether it be north or ſouth) and under that degree lies the place required.

PROB. III. *The Day of the Month being given to find the Sun's Place in the Ecliptic.*

Look for the day of the month in the calendar upon the wooden horizon, and over-againſt it you'll find the ſign and degree of the ecliptic which the ſun is in at that time.

PROB. IV. *To rectify the Globe for any given Place.*

Raiſe the pole ſo high above the horizon as is equal to the latitude of the place; fix the quadrant of altitude in the zenith; find the ſun's place in the ecliptic, and bring it to the meridian; put the hand of the hour-circle to the uppermoſt XII, (which is noon, at the lower XII is midnight) and ſet the globe exactly north and ſouth by the help of a mariner's compaſs; then will it truly repreſent the poſition of the earth at the noon of that day for which it is rectified.

PROB. V. *The Day of the Month being given, to find the Length thereof in any Latitude not within the Polar Circles.*

Elevate the globe for the latitude, mark the ſun's place in the ecliptic, and bring it to the brazen meridian; then ſet the hour-index to the uppermoſt XII, and turn the globe eaſtward till the ſun's place comes to the edge of the horizon, at which time the index points to the hour of ſun-riſing. Then turn the globe till you bring the ſun's place to the weſtern ſemicircle of the horizon, and the index will point to the hour of ſun-ſetting. Now by doubling the time of ſun-ſetting you have the length of the day, and the time of ſun-riſing doubled gives the length of the night.

PROB. VI. *The Hour of the Day at one Place (ſuppoſe* London*) being given to find the Hour of the Day, &c. at that Time in any other Place.*

Having brought the firſt given place (i. e. London) to the meridian, ſet the index to the given hour; then turn the globe about till the place where the hour is required comes to the meridian, and the index will point out the hour at the ſaid place.

PROB. VII. *The Day and Hour being given, to find thoſe Places on the Globe to which the Sun is in the Meridian at that Time.*

The pole being elevated according to the

latitude of the given place, bring that place to the brazen meridian, and ſet the index of the horary circle to the hour of the day; then turn the globe till the index point to the uppermoſt XII, and having fixed the globe in that ſituation, all thoſe places under the upper half of the brazen meridian have the ſun in their meridian at that particular time; ſo that with them it is noon-day.

PROB. VIII. *The Day and Hour being given in any Place to find that Part of the Globe to which the Sun is Vertical at the given Time.*

Having found the ſun's place in the ecliptic, bring it to the brazen meridian, and make a mark over it with chalk or a pencil; then find thoſe places of the earth in whoſe meridian the ſun is at that inſtant, and bring them to the brazen meridian; which done, that part of the earth which falls exactly under the aforeſaid mark is the place to which the ſun is then vertical, that is, in the zenith.

PROB. IX. *The Day and Hour being given, to find thoſe Places on the Globe to which the Sun is then riſing, thoſe to which he is then ſetting, thoſe where it is Noon-Day, thoſe which are actually enlightened, and thoſe that are not.*

Find that place of the globe to which the ſun is vertical at the given time, bring the ſame to the brazen meridian, and elevate the

pole according to the latitude of the ſaid place. The globe being fixed in this poſition, obſerve what places are in the weſtern ſemicircle of the horizon, for there the ſun is then riſing; and thoſe places in the eaſtern ſemicircle of the horizon have the ſun then ſetting. Thoſe places exactly under the brazen meridian have noon-day. And, laſtly, all thoſe above the horizon are enlightened; but thoſe below it are deprived of the ſun at that time.

PROB. X. *The Latitude of any Place being given, and alſo the Sun's Place in the Ecliptic, to find the Beginning and End of Twilight.*

The rays of the ſun, after he is withdrawn from our ſight, are faintly refracted to us by the atmoſphere, or body of air encompaſſing our earth. This continues till the ſun is got about eighteen degrees below the horizon, where he no longer enlightens our atmoſphere, and all that part thereof which is over us becomes dark. So likewiſe in the morning, when the ſun comes within eighteen degrees of our horizon, he begins again to enlighten the atmoſphere, and ſo more and more till he riſes and and makes full day. This ſmall illumination of the atmoſphere, or ſtate of the heavens between day and night, is what they call twilight; the beginning and end whereof may be thus found by the artificial globe. The globe being rectified, and the ſun's place

brought to the brazen meridian, ſet the index to XII at noon; then mark the point of the ecliptic oppoſite to the ſun's place, and turn the globe weſtward, together with the quadrant of altitude (which muſt be ſcrewed on the zenith) till the point oppoſite to the ſun's place cut the quadrant in the 18th degree above the horizon, and then the index will ſhew the time when the morning twilight begins. But take the point oppoſite to the ſun, and if you bring it to the eaſtern hemiſphere, turning it till it cuts the quadrant of altitude in the 18th degree, the hand will ſhew the time when twilight ends in the evening.

PROB. XI. *In any Place whoſe Latitude is known, and alſo the Sun's Place in the Ecliptic, to find the Hour of the Day by the Globe when the Sun ſhines.*

Elevate the globe for the given latitude, and place it duly north and ſouth by the mariner's compaſs; then fix a ſmall needle perpendicularly in the ſun's place in the ecliptic, bring the ſame to the brazen meridian, and ſet the hour-index to XII. at noon. This done, turn the globe till the needle caſts no ſhadow on it, and then the index will point to the hour of the day.

PROB. XII. *Any Place being given in the North Frigid Zone, to know how long the Sun ſhines there without ſetting.*

Elevate the globe according to the latitude of

the place, and turn it round till the firſt degree of cancer come under the meridian; then count the ſame number of degrees on the meridian, from each ſide of the equator, as the place is diſtant from the pole; and making a mark where the reckoning ends, turn the globe round, carefully obſerving what two degrees of the ecliptic paſs exactly under the two points marked on the meridian. Then over againſt thoſe degrees of the ecliptic on the wooden horizon, find the months and days of the month correſponding; which will ſhew when the longeſt day begins and ends, or how long the ſun doth conſtantly ſhine above the horizon of the given place.

PROB. XIII. *To find the* Antœci, Periœci, Antipodes, *and of any given Place.*

Bring the given place to the brazen meridian, and having found its latitude, reckon the ſame number of degrees on the meridian from the equator towards the contrary pole, and where the reckoning ends is the place of the Antœci. Keeping the globe in the ſame poſition, ſet the hour-index to XII at noon; then turn the globe about till the index points to the lower XII, and the place which lies under the meridian, having the ſame latitude with the the given place, is that of Periœci required.—As to the Antipodes, their place is found by counting 180 degrees upon the meridian from the given place, either north or ſouth.

PROB. XIV. *A Place being given on the Globe, to find its Bearing from any other Place.*

Bring the given place to the brazen meridian, and elevate the pole according to its latitude; then fix the quadrant of altitude in the zenith, applying the ſame ſucceſſively to thoſe places whoſe bearing is deſired, and the quadrant will interſect the wooden horizon at the ſeveral points of the compaſs, upon which thoſe places bear in reſpect of the given place.

PROB. XV. *To find the Diſtances between any two given Places upon the Globe; and to find all thoſe Places that are at the ſame Diſtance from any given Place.*

Lay the quadrant of altitude over the two given places, and the number of degrees intercepted between them being reduced into miles, will be the diſtance required. Or you may take the diſtance between the two places with a pair of compaſſes, and applying them to the equator, you'll have the degrees of diſtance as before. If you rectify the globe for the latitude and zenith of any place, and bring the ſaid place to the meridian; then turning the quadrant of altitude about, all thoſe places that are cut by the ſame point of it are at the ſame diſtance from the given place.

PROB. XVI. *The Day and Hour of a Lunar*

Eclipſe being known, to find all thoſe Places upon the Globe in which it will be viſible.

Find where the ſun is vertical at the hour of the eclipſe, and bring that place to the zenith; then the eclipſe will be viſible in all thoſe places that are under the horizon: but if the antipodes to the place where the ſun is vertical be brought into the zenith, the eclipſe will be ſeen in places above the horizon.—But obſerve, that an eclipſe of the moon being ſometimes of a long continuance, it may be ſeen in more than one hemiſphere of the earth, as ſhe will riſe in ſeveral places after the eclipſe begins.

Note, When an eclipſe of the ſun is central, if you bring the place where the ſun is vertical, at the time into the zenith, ſome part of the eclipſe will be viſible in moſt places within the upper hemiſphere; but by reaſon of the ſhort duration of ſolar eclipſes, and the latitude which the moon commonly has at ſuch times, there is no certainty in determining by the globe where thoſe eclipſes will be viſible; and therefore recourſe muſt be had to calculations.

Theſe are ſome of the chief problems performable by the terreſtrial globe; but if the reader deſire more, he may be abundantly ſatisfied by conſulting Varenius, Gordon, and other geographical writers. I now proceed to ſome pleaſant, ſurpriſing paradoxes, which if

they are of no great uſe, will at leaſt be an agreeable amuſement. The paradoxes are moſtly borrowed from Gordon, and their ſolutions from Varenius, with ſome variation.

CHAP. VIII.

Geographical Paradoxes, with their Solutions.

PARADOX I.

THERE is a certain place on the globe, of a conſiderable ſouthern latitude, that hath both the greateſt and leaſt degree of longitude.

This is true, not only of a certain place in the ſouthern latitude, but of all places ſituated under the firſt meridian from pole to pole; for where the greateſt longitude ends, there the leaſt begins.

PAR. II. *There are two Places belonging to* Aſia, *that lie under the ſame Meridian, and at no great Diſtance from one another; and yet the reſpective Inhabiants, in reckoning their Time, differ an entire Natural Day.*

In order to ſolve this paradox, let us premiſe, That if a ſhip ſet out from any port, and ſteering eaſtward, ſail quite round the globe; the people of the ſaid ſhip in reckoning their time will have gained one complete

day at their return, or count one day more than thoſe reſiding at the ſaid port. On the contrary, thoſe who ſail weſtward round the globe, will loſe a day in their computation; that is, when they return to the port from whence they ſet out, they will be one day be hind the reckoning of the inhabitants of that place. The reaſon of this will appear, if we conſider that thoſe who ſail eaſtward, continually arrive at a new meridian, to which the ſun comes ſooner than to that they left, and therefore they begin to count every day ſooner than the former: ſuppoſe, for inſtance, they ſail fifteen degrees eaſtward, the day will begin an hour ſooner there than in the place they ſailed from; if thirty degrees, two hours; and ſo in that proportion, till having gone quite round to the place from whence they ſet out, they have gained twenty-four hours in their reckoning, ſo many times fifteen degrees being the circumference of the earth. In like manner, thoſe who ſail fifteen degrees weſtward, will have the ſun in their meridian later by a whole hour than it was in the place from whence they ſailed; and ſo they will loſe an hour every 15 degrees, which comes to twenty-four hours in ſailing round the globe: hence we may ſolve our paradox, by obſerving, that the Spaniards in the Philippine iſlands, and the Portugueſe at Macao on the coaſt of China, differ a day in their account of time, though they live near one another, and ſome of them

under the ſame meridian: the reaſon of which is, that the Portugueſe came eaſtward from Europe to Macao, and the Spaniards weſtward from America to the Philippines.

PAR. III. *There are many Places lying within the* Torid Zone, *in which if a certain Kind of Sun-Dial be duly erected, the Shadow will go back upon it ſeveral Degrees at a certain Time of the Year, and that twice every Day, for the Space of divers Weeks; yet no ways derogating from that miraculous returning of the Shadow upon the Dial of* Ahaz, *in the Days of King* Hezekiah.

This Paradox might be ſolved by explaining the nature of concave, convex, and reflecting dials; but as one certain kind of dial is mentioned we may ſuppoſe an equinoctial dial deſcribed on both ſides of an horizontal plane with two gnomons, and near the tropic, when the latitude and declination are equal. Now before the ſun comes to the mathematical horizon in the morning, he will ſhine on the lower ſide of the plane, and the ſhadow of the gnomon will run weſtward; and preſently after ſix o'clock, as he ſhines on the upper plane, the ſhadow will run eaſtward till noon, and thence to ſix in the evening; at which time the ſhadow on the lower plane will begin and run eaſtward till ſun-ſet. It is likewiſe to be conſidered, that any where in the Torid Zone, where the latitude is leſs

than the ſun's declination, and both towards the ſame pole, the ſun comes twice to the ſame point of the compaſs both forenoon and afternoon; and an equinoctial dial being placed horizontally, the ſhadow of the gnomon will go back twice every day.

PAR. IV. *There is a certain Iſland in the* Atlantic *Ocean, which being deſcribed by a Ship at Sea, and bearing due Weſt of the ſaid Ship, at twelve Leagues Diſtance by Eſtimation, the trueſt Courſe for hitting the ſaid Iſland is to ſail ſix Leagues due Eaſt, and juſt as many due Weſt.*

To ſolve this we muſt ſuppoſe that the firſt meridian, from whence longitude is reckoned both Eaſt and Weſt, paſſes between the ſhip and the iſland, at the diſtance of ſix leagues from each; and then the ſhip ſailing ſix leagues Eaſt, and ſix Weſt, relates to the denomination of the longitude, and not to the points of the compaſs, for the ſhip will ſteer upon one point only (i. e. Weſt) all the while.

PAR. V. *There are ſome remarkable Places upon the Globe, whoſe Senſible Horizon is commonly fair and ſerene, and yet it is impoſſible to diſtinguiſh in it properly any one of the intermediate Points of the Compaſs; nay, not ſo much as two of the four Cardinal Points.*

This can be only under either of the poles.

PAR. VI. *There is a certain Iſland in the* Baltic *Sea, to whoſe Inhabitants the Body of the Sun is viſible in the Morning before he riſeth, and likewiſe in the Evening after he is ſet.*

To thoſe who are acquainted with the nature of refraction, there is no difficulty in this paradox: nor is the phænomenon peculiar to any certain iſland, but every where occaſioned by the watry vapours near the horizon, which makes the ſun appear higher than he really is; though the nearer the pole, the greater the refraction, from the greater denſity of the atmoſphere: any one may be convinced of the truth of this, by putting a ſixpence or ſhilling into a veſſel full of water, which he will thereby ſee at a greater diſtance than he can when the veſſel is empty; that is, he will ſee the image of it in the water, as we ſee the image of the ſun in the morning before he is actually above the horizon.

PAR. VII. *There is a certain Village in the Kingdom of* Naples, *and ſituated in a very low Valley, and yet the Sun is above three thouſand Miles nearer to the Inhabitants thereof at Noon, than when he either riſes or ſets to the ſaid Village.*

When the ſun riſeth in the horizon of any place, be it in what country ſoever, he is the ſpace of the earth's ſemidiameter more diſtant from that place than in his meridian at noon.

Now there being but an inconſiderable proportion between the depth of the loweſt valley in the world, and the ſemidiameter of the earth, which is almoſt four thouſand miles; it follows, that the ſun muſt be more than three thouſand miles nearer any place at noon than at his riſing, there being no valley ſo deep as the hundredth part of 1000 miles.

PAR. VIII. *There is a remarkable Place of the Earth, of a conſiderable Southern Latitude, from whoſe Meridian the Sun removeth not for ſeveral Days at a certain Time of the Year.*

Under the ſouth pole, or within either polar circle, when the ſun is in its hemiſphere, the ſun enlightens the meridian by ſhining conſtantly upon it for thirty days together.

PAR. IX. *There is a certain Part of the Earth, where the Sun and Moon, (though it be the very Inſtant of Time the Moon is at full) may happen to riſe at the ſame Time, and upon the ſame Point of the Compaſs.*

Under the north pole the ſun and full moon, both decreaſing in ſouth declination and latitude, will riſe in the equinoctial points at the ſame moment; and under the north pole there is no other point of the compaſs but ſouth, and ſo, per contra, may be under the other pole.

PAR. X. *There is a large Plane in* Aſia, *able*

to contain ſixty thouſand Men drawn up in Battle-Array: but if that Number of Men were actually drawn up there, it would be impoſſible for more than one of them to ſtand upright upon the ſaid Plane.

Mathematicians demonſtrate, that a plane can touch a ſphere only in one point; and therefore as the earth is ſpherical, ſuppoſe any number of men to ſtand upon an horizontal plane, that man only who ſtands upon the point of contract, can be ſaid to ſtand upright with reſpect to the centre of the globe.

PAR. XI. *There are three diſtinct Places on the Continent of* Europe *equally diſtant from one another, and making a true equilateral Triangle, and each Side conſiſts of a thouſand Miles; and yet there is a fourth Place ſo ſituated in reſpect of the other three, that a Man may travel on Foot from it to any of the other Places in the Space of one natural Day, at a certain Time of the Year, and that without the leaſt Hurry or Fatigue.*

But a natural day is here meant from ſun-riſing to ſun-ſetting; ſo that if we ſuppoſe the places ſituated within the polar circles, where the ſun appears without ſetting, for ſeveral months together, the journey may eaſily be performed according to the terms of the paradox.

PAR. XII. *There is a certain* European *Iſland,*

which frequently alters both its Longitude and Latitude.

There are floating iſlands in ſeveral parts of the world, which therefore change their longitude and latitude as they are moved from one place to another.

PAR. XIII. *There is vaſt Country in* Ethiopia Superior, *to whoſe Inhabitants the Body of the Moon always appears to be moſt enlightened, when ſhe is leaſt enlightened, and to be the leaſt when moſt.*

The light that falls upon any body being always more or leſs according to its diſtance from the luminous body, it follows, that not only in Ethiopia, but in all parts of the world, the moon appears to be moſt enlightened at the full, when in reality ſhe is leaſt enlightened, becauſe ſhe is then removed from the ſun farther than at new moon, by the diameter of her own orbit.

Many more paradoxes of this kind are to be found in large treatiſes on geography, which thoſe who have opportunity and inclination may conſult; but theſe are ſome of the moſt entertaining ones, and I believe will be thought ſufficient for our preſent purpoſe.—I now proceed to the ſecond part of our deſign, namely, to take a particular ſurvey of the terraqueous globe, and to give a ſhort account of what is

moſt obſerveable with reſpect to the ſeveral countries or their inhabitants.

GEOGRAPHY.

PART. II.

Containing a particular Deſcription of all the remarkable Countries in the WORLD.

CHAP. I.

Of Europe.

Q. HOW is the world generally divided?

A. It is uſually divided into four continents, viz. Europe, Aſia, Africa, and America. The three firſt indeed are, ſtrictly ſpeaking, but one Continent, and are ſometimes called the Eaſtern Continent with reſpect to their ſituation, as America is called

the Weſtern. The laſt is alſo called the New World, on account of its late diſcovery.

Q. How is Europe bounded?

A. On the Eaſt by Aſia, on the Weſt by the Atlantic or Weſtern Ocean, on the North by the Northern or Icy Sea, and on the South by the Mediterranean.

Q. What is the length and breadth of Europe?

A. Its length from South-Weſt to North-Eaſt is about 3600 Engliſh miles, and its breadth from North to South about 2200.

Q. How is Europe divided?

A. It is divided differently by different geographers; but I ſhall chiefly follow Mr. Gordon's diviſion, which ſeems to be the moſt methodical. Europe then conſiſts of eight great parts, viz. 1. Scandinavia, which comprehends Sweden, Denmark, and Norway. 2. Muſcovy. 3. France. 4. Germany. 5. Poland. 6. Spain. 7. Italy. 8. Part of Turkey. To theſe we muſt add the European Iſlands, the chief whereof are Great Britain and Ireland.

SECT. I.

Of Sweden.

Q. WHAT are the boundaries and extent of Sweden?

A. It is bounded on the Eaſt by Muſcovy, on the Weſt by Norway, on the North by Norwegian Lapland, and on the South by the Baltic Sea. Its length almoſt 900 miles, and its breadth about 800.

Q. How is Sweden divided?

A. Into four large parts, viz. Sweden Proper, Gothland, Swediſh Lapland, and Finland; and theſe are ſubdivided into many leſſer provinces. Ingria and Livonia, which were formerly Swediſh provinces, having been conquered by the Muſcovites, are ſtill in their poſſeſſion. We ſhall mention the principal iſlands belonging to Sweden, when we come to ſpeak of the European Iſlands in general.

Q. Which are the chief cities or towns of Sweden?

A. In Sweden Proper are Stockholm, the capital of the whole kingdom, and a celebrated mart; Upſal, a very ancient city, where the kings of Sweden are uſually crowned; Nico-

ping, Orebro, Aroſen, Geval, Hedemore, and Hadſwickwalt.—In Gothland are Carolſtadt, Daleburg, Gottenburg, Norkoping, Calmar, Helmſtadt, Chriſtianſtadt, Careleſcrown, and Lunden.—In Lapland are Tornea, Kimi, Lula, Pitha, and Una.—In Finland are Abo, Kexholm, Borgo, Tavaſtus, and Cajaneburg.

Q. What farther account have you to give of Sweden?

A. I ſhall give you an account of this country (and ſo of all others that are remarkable) under the following articles, viz. Its air, ſoil, commodities, and rarities; and the character, government, and religion of its inhabitants.

AIR.] The air of Sweden is for the moſt part very cold, and many of the mountains are continually covered with ſnow; however, it is pure and wholeſome except near great lakes and marſhes. The winter continues ſeven or eight months, and in ſome parts nine; but the ſummer comes on ſo ſuddenly that the vallies are all green in a few days after the ſnow is melted.

SOIL.] The ſoil of Sweden in general is rather barren than fertile, the country being full of mountains, rocks, woods, lakes, &c. However, though they have no great plenty of corn, they have good paſturage, and their lakes and rivers are well ſtored with fiſh. They have alſo abundance of veniſon.

COMMODITIES.] Sweden has a great many

mines of iron and copper, vaſt quantities of which are exported to England. The Swedes alſo export pitch, tar, maſts, deals, wooden-ware, hard-ware, hides, buck-ſkins, furs, tallow and honey.

RARITIES.] Near Gottenburg is a ſurpriſing cataract, where a conſiderable river, after a long courſe, falls down a precipice into a deep pit, with great noiſe and violence, and ſuch is the height of the precipice, and the depth of the hole, which receives the water, that large maſts or other pieces of timber, which the natives bring down the river, being hurried impetuouſly from the top of the precipice, frequently dive ſo far under-water, as to be half an hour or longer before they riſe up again to the ſurface. This deep hole has been often ſounded with a line of many hundred fathoms, but no bottom could ever be found. It is ſaid there is a ſlimy lake in the ſouthern part of Gothland, of ſuch a quality as to ſinge whatever is put into it.

CHARACTER.] The Swedes are grave and reſerved, ſelf-opiniated, jealous, and diſtruſtful: they have little inclination to mechanic trades, and are but indifferently qualified for manufactures which require induſtry and ingenuity: their gentry are very hoſpitable, affable and civil to ſtrangers, and many of them are conſiderable proficients in the arts and ſciences: as to their perſons, they are of a good ſtature and robuſt conſtitution, capable of en-

during the fatigues of a military life, to which their nobility are much inclined. Their women are generally fair, well-ſhaped and witty: the Swedes ſpeak a dialect of the Teutonic or German language.

GOVERNMENT.] This kingdom was formerly elective, but became hereditary under Guſtavus I. in the ſixteenth century, and continued ſo till after the death of the late Charles XII. when the government was ſettled on the ancient footing. The king and ſenate make the legiſlative power.

RELIGION.] The reformation was begun in Sweden in the reign of the above-mentioned Guſtavus, ſince which time Lutheraniſm has been the eſtabliſhed religion of the kingdom; nor is there a toleration for Chriſtians of any other denomination.

SECT. II.

Of Denmark.

Q. HOW is Denmark bounded!

A. On the Eaſt by part of the Baltic Sea, on the Weſt by the German Ocean, on the North by the ſea called the Categate, and on the South by the Duchy of Holſtein, part of which belongs to the crown of Denmark.

Q. How is this kingdom divided?

A. Into a large Peninſula called Jutland, the Iſlands of Zealand and Funen, and ſeveral others of leſs note.—Jutland (which is about 200 miles long, and 80 or 100 broad in ſome places) is divided into North and South. The North part, which is much the largeſt, belongs wholly to Denmark; but the South part, or the Duchy of Sleſwick, belongs partly to the king of Denmark, and partly to the duke of Holſtein-Gottorp.

Q. Which are the chief places in Denmark?

A. In the Iſland of Zealand or Sealand is Copenhagen, a large and well fortified city, the capital of the whole kingdom; alſo Roſchild, Soora, Elſineur, and the caſtle of Cronenburg, which laſt commands the Sound, a

famous Streight that joins the German ocean with the Baltic. At Cronenburg it is not a league over; and here the ſhips of other nations are obliged to pay a toll to the king of Denmark for paſſing through it. This Streight ſeparates this Iſland from Sweden.—In Funen, or Fyonio, is the city of Odenſee, which has ſometimes been the reſidence of the kings of Denmark; its other towns are of no great note. The narrow ſea which ſeparates this Iſland from Zealand is called the Greater Belt, and that which parts it from Jutland the Leſſer Belt.—The principal towns of North Jutland are Wiborg, Alborg, Rypen, and Arbus; thoſe of South Jutland are Sleſwick, Gottorp, Haderſleben, Flenſborg, Appenrade, Tonderen, Huſum, and Tonningen.

Q. Of what kind is the air, ſoil, &c. of Denmark?

Air.] The air of Denmark is cold and healthful, except in ſome places which are ſituated very low, and troubled with frequent fogs. Their ſeaſons, as in Sweden, may be ſaid to be only ſummer and winter, for they have ſcarce any medium between cold and heat, as we have in ſpring and autumn.

Soil.] Moſt parts of Denmark are very fruitful, producing plenty of corn and vegetables. There is alſo ſuch good paſturage, eſpecially in Jutland, that the country abounds in cattle, vaſt numbers of which are annually ſent into Germany.

COMMODITIES.] The chief commodities of this country are fiſh, hides, tallow, timber, all ſorts of rigging for ſhips, &c. Black cattle are alſo ſent lean from Jutland to Holland, where they are ſoon fattened, and yield the Dutch a conſiderable profit. Horſes are likewiſe ſent abroad from Jutland.

RARITIES.] Near Sleſwick are the remains of a famous wall and trench made above 900 years ago, to prevent the incurſions of the Saxons.—In the year 1639, a girl walking from one town to another in the Duchy of Sleſwick happened to ſtumble againſt ſomething that ſtuck up a little above the ground, which upon digging it up, proved to be a veſſel of fine gold in the ſhape of a horn, embelliſhed on the outſide with many hieroglyphical figures. This veſſel (weighing about a hundred ounces) is preſerved to this day in the Royal Muſæum at Copenhagen, which is filled with a valuable collection of curioſities, too many to be here enumerated.

CHARACTER.] The Danes were formerly a brave and warlike people, but are at preſent much degenerated in that reſpect, from the character of their anceſtors. However, they are frugal and laborious, though they have little encouragement to be ſo under a ſevere and arbitrary government. The nobility and gentry are ſaid to be proud, and have the character of being addicted to exceſſive drinking. The men are for the moſt

part tall and ſtrong, and the women handſome.—The Daniſh tongue is a dialect of the Teutonic, ſomewhat different from that of Sweden. Learning is now encouraged in Denmark, and the liberal arts and ſciences flouriſh there.

GOVERNMENT.] The crown of Denmark is hereditary, and the king is an abſolute monarch, having the power of explaining, repealing, and changing the laws at his pleaſure.

RELIGION.] Lutheraniſm is the eſtabliſhed religion in Denmark, but other religions are tolerated.

SECT. III.

Of Norway.

Q. HOW is Norway bounded, and what is its extent?

A. It is bounded on the North and Weſt by the ocean, on the South by the Categate, and on the Eaſt by Sweden, from which it is ſeparated by a long range of high mountains, called the Dofrine hills. Its length (including Norwegian Lapland) is about 1000 miles, and its breadth in ſome places 180, but in others not ſo much.

Q. How is it divided?

A. Into ſix governments, viz. thoſe of

Bergen, Drontheim, Aggerhus, Bahus. Stavanger, and Wardhus. But the province of Bahus belongs to the Swedes, who have maintained it ever ſince the year 1660.

Q. Which are the chief towns of Norway?

A. The capital of the whole kingdom is Bergen. Drontheim is a trading town, with a good harbour. The government of Aggerhus is ſo called from a caſtle of the ſame name, which is near its chief city Anſlo, otherwiſe called Chriſtiana. Bahus is a ſtrong fortreſs. Stavanger is a fine trading city. As to the government of Wardhus, it takes its name from an old caſtle on an iſland in the North Sea, and comprehends Finmark and Lapland; but has no town of note.

Q. Of what kind is the air, ſoil, &c. of Norway.

Air.] The air of this country, eſpecially towards the north, is ſo extremely cold that it is thinly inhabited, but the ſouthern part is well peopled.

Soil.] The ſoil in general is very barren, and produces ſo little corn, that the common people eat dried fiſh inſtead of bread; and ſometimes they are forced to feed their horſes with ſtock-fiſh for want of graſs or hay. In ſhort, the country is overſpread with vaſt woods, and encumbered with rocks and mountains, which are almoſt continually covered with ſnow.

Commodities.] The chief of theſe are

ſtock-fiſh, oil, furs, pitch, tar, maſts, cables, timber, deal-boards, &c. for which they take little ready money, but barter them for corn, wine, brandy, beer, and other neceſſaries.

RARITIES.] On the coaſt of Norway is a dreadful whirlpool, commonly called Maelſtrom, and by mariners the Naval of the Sea, of which ſtrange things are related; as that the heavieſt bodies thrown into it during the ebb of the tide cannot ſink, but are toſſed up by the waves with incredible violence; and that the fiſhermen, watching this opportunity, take abundance of fiſh that are forced up to the ſurface of the water. Near Drontheim is a lake which is never frozen, notwithſtanding the intenſe cold of that climate.

CHARACTER.] The Norwegians are ſtrong, hardy, laborious, juſt in their dealings, and civil to ſtrangers. As for the Laplanders they are an ignorant and ſuperſtitious people, but very honeſt and harmleſs, and free from moſt of the vices of politer nations. They live in tents or huts, and employ themſelves chiefly in fiſhing and hunting. They are ſaid to be very expert in the uſe of the bow, inſomuch that they will ſhoot an arrow into a mark not bigger than a farthing, if they are juſt near enough to ſee it. Their rein deer they look upon as their greateſt riches, and indeed they are very uſeful creatures; for they draw the natives in ſledges over the ſnow with ſurpriſing ſwiftneſs, give them milk to drink, fleſh to

eat, and ſkins for cloathing.—The language of Norway is a dialect of the Teutonic, differing little from that of Denmark.

GOVERNMENT.] Norway was formerly an independent kingdom, but is now incorporated with Denmark, and is governed by a viceroy ſent from thence, who uſually reſides at Bergen.

RELIGION.] The eſtabliſhed religion in Norway is the ſame as in Denmark; but the Laplanders are generally Pagans, or at leaſt have very confuſed notions of the Chriſtian doctrines. However, though they are deficient in this reſpect, they are remarkable for the innocence of their lives.

SECT. VII.

Of Muſcovy, or Ruſſia.

Q. WHAT are the boundaries and extent of Muſcovy?

A. It is bounded on the north by the northern ocean; on the ſouth by Little Tartary, Circaſſia, and the Caſpian ſea; on the Eaſt by Tartary in Aſia; and on the weſt by Sweden and Poland. It is about 1500 miles in length, and about 1100 in breadth.

Q. How is it divided?

A. It may be divided into four great parts,

viz. Weſt Muſcovy, Eaſt Muſcovy, Muſcovian Tartary, and Muſcovian Lapland.

Q. How are theſe parts ſubdivided, and which are the chief cities?

A. Weſt Muſcovy contains the following provinces, viz. 1. The Duchy of Moſcow, wherein is Moſcow, the capital of the whole empire, a large and populous city, with a fine caſtle and palace; but the houſes being moſtly built of wood, it is ſubject to frequent fires. 2. The ſeveral Duchies of Rezan, Worotin, Wolodimer, Suſdal, Roſthow, Biele-Jezora, Wologda, Tweer, Smolenſko, Pleſcow, Reſcow, and Bielſki; the chief towns of which provinces bear the ſame names. 3. Ingra, formerly a province of Sweden, the capital of which is Peterſburg, a new and flouriſhing city, having a great trade, and being moſtly the reſidence of the empreſs of Ruſſia. 4. Livonia, a province likewiſe taken from the Swedes, the capital whereof is Riga, a trading city, with a good harbour, and well fortified. Its other towns of note are Revel and Narva, both places of trade and ſtrength; to which we may add Dorpt and Pernaw. 5. The territory of Great Novogrod, or Novogrod-Weliki. 6. The territory of Jeroſlaw, with a capital of the ſame name, which is a large city. 7. Dwina, whoſe capital is Archangel, which ſtands on the river Dwina, near its fall into the White Sea, and is ſtill a place of great trade, though much of it has been removed to Peterſburg. 8. Kir-

gapol, with a town of the ſame name. 9. Czarnichow, which borders on Poland. 10. Severia, its capital Novogrod Sewierſki. 11. The territory of Mordua near the river Don. 12. The Ruſſian Ukraine, in which the Ruſſians have Kiow and ſeveral other towns, the reſt belonging to Poland.

Eaſt Muſcovy is divided into nine Provinces, viz. Obdora, Petzora, Juhorſki, Condinſki or Condori, Permia or Permſki, Wiatka or Wiadſki, Ouſtiough, Niſi-Novogrod, and the Czaremiſſi; in which there are few cities or towns of note.

Muſcovian Tartary contains the kingdoms of Aſtracan, Caſan, and Bulgar, whoſe capitals bear the ſame names; and that of Siberia, a wild country whither the Ruſſians frequently baniſh their State-criminals, the chief city whereof is Tobolſki.—Here we may mention the country of the Samoiedes, about the mouth of the river Oby, with which we are very little acquainted.

Muſcovian Lapland is divided into three provinces, the chief towns whereof are Kola, Kandalax, and Warſiga.

Q. What account do you give of the air, ſoil, &c. of Muſcovy?

Air.] As Muſcovy is of a vaſt extent, the air of it muſt be very different. Towards the North it is extremely cold, but in the ſouthern provinces it is more temperate; and travellers ſay, that in ſome parts of Muſcovy,

though the ſummer is ſhort, the ſcorching heats are then as troubleſome as the ſevere cold in winter.

Soil.] The ſoil of Muſcovy, as well as the air, differs according to the different ſituation of its parts. In the northern provinces it is barren, nor is there warmth enough to bring the fruits of the earth to perfection; but in the middle of the country, and thoſe parts towards Poland, the ſoil is fertile, and produces abundance of corn. In general Muſcovy is a flat country, and full of marſhes, foreſts, lakes, and rivers. Its chief lakes are Ladoga and Onega; and its principal rivers the Oby, Wolga, Nieper, Don, and Dwina.

Commodities.] Theſe are furs, Ruſſia leather, linen cloth, hemp, flax, pitch, tar, brimſtone, pot-aſh, iron, wax, honey, tallow, &c.

Rarities.] Amongſt the curioſities of Muſcovy, we are told of a ſtrange ſort of melon found in ſome of its ſouthern provinces, which reſembles a lamb in figure, and is covered with a woolly ſubſtance. The ſkin of this being dreſſed as tanners do the fleſhy ſide of the lamb-ſkins, without taking off the wool, is extremely like the ſkin of a real lamb, inſomuch that the Muſcovites ſometimes line their veſts with it inſtead of furs.

Character.] Till the time of the late Czar Peter I. the Muſcovites were a rude and barbarous nation; but that great prince

(who himſelf, at the end of the laſt century, viſited England, Holland, and Germany, in order to be acquainted with their laws and cuſtoms, and improve himſelf in the moſt uſeful arts and ſciences) encouraged his ſubjects to apply themſelves to all kinds of learning, particularly the Mathematics, ſet up printing-houſes and ſchools in his dominions, and took ſuch other methods to baniſh the reigning ignorance of his people, that the Muſcovites ſeem already to vie with the politeſt nations of Europe. Exceſſive drinking is a prevailing vice amongſt them; and they are ſaid to be proud, ſelfiſh, and over-reaching. They are of a good ſtature, and generally bleſſed with a healthful and vigorous conſtitution.—The Muſcovites ſpeak a dialect of the Sclavonian, or language of the Sclavi, an ancient people of Scythia.

GOVERNMENT.] Muſcovy is an hereditary and abſolute monarchy, the lives and fortunes of the ſubjects being wholly at the diſpoſal of the ſovereign. An emperor of Muſcovy is uſually called the Czar, an empreſs the Czarina.

RELIGION.] The eſtabliſhed religion in Muſcovy is that of the Greek church, but the preſent government tolerates all denominations of Chriſtians. They uſe a great many ceremonies in their worſhip, and ſcarce undertake any thing of moment without ſigning themſelves with the ſign of the croſs. They give the euchariſt to children, confeſs to the prieſts,

pray for the dead, make proceſſions, pilgrimmages, &c. They have a numerous clergy, and divers monaſteries of friars and nuns.

SECT. V.

Of France.

Q. HOW is France bounded, and what is its extent?

A. It is bounded on the north by the Britiſh Channel, and the Netherlands; on the ſouth by Spain and the Mediterranean; on the eaſt by Germany, Swiſſerland, Savoy, and Italy; and on the weſt by the Atlantic Ocean. The length of France is near 600 miles, and its breadth about 480.

Q. How is it divided?

A. France, with its conqueſts, is at preſent divided into more than thirty military governments or intendancies; but moſt geographers divide it into twelve provinces, viz. four in the northern part of the kingdom, four in the middle, and four in the ſouthern part.—The northern provinces are, The Iſle of France, Picardy, Normandy, and Champagne.

The middle provinces are, Bretagne, Orleanois, Bourgogne and Lyonnois. The ſouthern, Guienne and Gaſcoign, Languedoc, Dau-

phiné and Provence.—Beſides theſe the French are now poſſeſſed of Rouſſillon in Spain; Franche Compté, Lorrain, and Alſace on the ſide of Germany; and the whole province of Artois, with great part of Flanders, Hainault, and Luxemburgh in the Netherlands.

Q. Which are the chief cities and towns of France?

A. In the Iſle of France is Paris, a very large, beautiful, rich, and populous city, the capital of the whole kingdom. Its other places of note are Meaux, Soiſſons, Noyon, Laox, Beauvais, Senlis, Pontois, and Melun; beſides the royal ſeats of Verſailles, Marli, St. Germain, and Fontainbleau.—The capital of Picardy is Amiens. Its other towns are Abbeville, where there is a great woollen manufactory; Boulogne, a fortified ſeaport; and Calais, a very ſtrong town with an excellent harbour. In Upper Normandy is Rouen, the capital, a large trading city; and Havre de Grace and Dieppe, two noted ſeaports. The chief city of lower Normandy is Caen; the reſt are Alençon, Coutance, Avranches, &c. In Champagne the two principal cities are Rheimes and Troyes.

In Britagne, or Britany, (as we call it) is Rennes, the capital of the province; Nantes, from whence comes the beſt brandy; St. Malo, a conſiderable fort and harbour; and Breſt, a well fortified ſeaport, the beſt that France has upon the ocean; with ſeveral

other cities.—The principal cities of the Orleanois are Orleans, Poictiers, Chartres, Angers, Vemdome, Tours, Bourges, Nevers, and Angouleſme. Blois is a pleaſant town: Rochelle is a noted ſeaport: Bourgogne (or Burgundy) is divided into two parts, one called the Duchy of Burgundy, the other the County of Burgundy, or the Franche Compté. This laſt is alſo called the Upper Burgundy, and the Duchy the Lower. The chief places in the Duchy are Dijon, Auxere, Semur, Autun, Chalons upon the Saone, Maſcon, and Charolles. Thoſe of the Compté are Beſançon, Dole, Grai, Veſocul, and Sablins. The capital of the Lyonnois is Lyons, a large, rich, and trading city. Its other towns are not very conſiderable.

In Guienne (the ſouthern part of which province is called Gaſcoigne, or Gaſcony) is Bourdeaux, the Capital, a city of great trade; alſo Saintes, Perigueux, Limoges, Rhodes, Cahors, Agen, and ſeveral others. In Gaſcony are Aux, Ayre, Pau, Dax, and Bayone, a ſtrong ſeaport, and a place of great trade.—The capital of Languedoc is Toulouſe, a large and ancient city. Its other cities of note are Niſmes, Narbonne, Beziers, and Montpellier, which laſt is famous for its good air, good phyſic, and ſkilful phyſicians. To theſe we may add the town of Beaucaire, remarkable for its annual fairs, frequented by merchants from all parts of Europe.—The chief cities in Dau-

phiné are Grenoble, Embrun, Vienne, and Valence. From this province the eldeſt prince of France takes the title of Dauphin.—The principal places of Provence are Aix, its capital, and Arles, both large and ancient cities; Marſeilles, a great trading city, with an excellent harbour, well fortified, and the uſual ſtation of the French king's gallies; Toulon, another ſeaport of great ſtrength, where they uſually fit out their largeſt ſhips of war, and keep vaſt magazines of military ſtores. Its other ports are Frojus and Antibes, both well fortified. In Provence are included the principality of Orange, with a capital of the ſame name, now ſubject to France; and the county of Vanaiſſin, wherein is Avignon, a handſome city, which with its territory belongs to the pope, and is governed by one of his legates.

As for Lorrain (including the Duchy of Bar) its principal cities are Nanci, Bar-le-duc; Metz, Toul, and Verdun. The Capital of Alſace is Straſbourg, a very ſtrong city.—The chief towns of the French Netherlands will be mentioned when we treat of Germany.

Q. What have you to ſay of the air, ſoil, &c. of France?

Air.] A. The air of France in general is temperate, pleaſant, and wholeſome.

Soil.] The ſoil is very fruitful, producing every thing neceſſary for the uſe of man, eſpe-

cially corn and fruits. The country is well watered with rivers, the chief whereof are the Rhone, the Garonne, the Seine, and the Loire.

COMMODITIES.] The chief commodities of France are wine, brandy, ſalt, ſilks of various kinds, linen and woollen goods, hemp, canvas, paper, ſoap, almonds, olives, &c.

RARITIES.] In France we meet with ſeveral remains of triumphal arches, amphitheatres, heathen temples, aqueducts, and other Roman antiquities. There are ſome ancient columns and pyramids near Autun in Burgundy: and a Roman obeliſk of oriental granate at Arles in Provence, all of one entire ſtone, though it is above fifty feet high, and ſeven feet in diameter at the baſe. Among the antique curioſities may be reckoned a large buckler of maſſy ſilver, weighing about twenty pounds, taken out of the Rhone near Avignon in 1665; which appears, by the figures it is charged with, to be near two thouſand years old.—There is a fountain near Grenoble which boils up in large bubbles, and ſeems to be covered with flames, and yet is never hot.—In Guienne are ſeveral mountains that burn when it rains. In Dauphiné there is a great cave, from whence a violent wind proceeds; and another ſubterraneous paſſage in Britany through which flows a vaſt torrent of water.

CHARACTER.] The French have a genius fit to undertake any thing, either in learning, commerce, or war. They are lovers of the

ſciences, and are generally bleſſed with a clear conception and ready expreſſion. They are active, ſprightly, talkative, civil to ſtrangers, pleaſing in diſcourſe, and of a winning deportment; but they are too much addicted to flattery and diſſimulation.—The French tongue is a dialect of the Latin, with a mixture of ſome ancient Gallic and German words. It has been much refined of late years, and is uſed in moſt of the courts of Europe.

GOVERNMENT.] The crown of France was hereditary, but females were excluded. The king was abſolute, the parliament had loſt their ancient privileges, by which the power of their monarchs was formerly limited; but at this time 1792, the ſtruggle of the people againſt monarchy renders it uncertain what ſyſtem of government will prevail.

RELIGION.] The eſtabliſhed religion in France is that of the church of Rome; but proteſtants, &c. have lately been tolerated.

SECT. VI.

Of Germany.

Q. HOW is Germany bounded, and what is its extent?

A. Germany (taken in the largeſt ſenſe) is bounded on the North by Jutland and the Baltic Sea; on the ſouth by the Alps, which divide it from Italy; on the Eaſt by Poland and Hungary; and on the Weſt by France, and the German Ocean. It is about 800 miles in length, and near 600 in breadth.

Q. How is it divided?

A. Into ten general parts called circles, viz. thoſe of Belgium, Weſtphalia, Lower Saxony, Upper Saxony, Lower Rhine, Upper Rhine, Franconia, Suabia, Bavaria, and Auſtria: but (ſtrictly ſpeaking) Germany at preſent is divided only into nine circles, that of Belgium being moſtly independent of the empire.

Q. What countries do theſe circles comprehend, and which are their chief cities?

A. I ſhall begin with,

I. *The Circle of* BELGIUM.

This comprehends the ſeventeen provinces of the Netherlands, ſeven whereof are united into a powerful and independent republic, viz. thoſe of Holland, Zealand, Utrecht, Guelderland, Overvyſſel, Frieſland, and Groeningen, which frequently go under the name of Holland. The other ten provinces are Flanders, Brabant, Artois, Hainault, Namur, the Duchy of Luxemburg, that of Limburg, the biſhoprick of Liege, the Marquiſate of the Empire, and the lordſhip of Mechlin or Malines. Part of theſe provinces belongs to the Dutch, part to the French, and part to the Houſe of Auſtria or the German Empire; and all together are ſometimes improperly called Flanders.

The capital of Holland, (properly ſo called) and in ſome ſenſe of all the United Provinces, is AMSTERDAM, a city of vaſt trade and riches. Its other places of note are Harlem, Rotterdam, Leyden, Delft, Dort, the Brille, and the Hague.—The chief city of Zealand is Middleburg, and Fluſhing is a place of importance.—The province of Utrecht has a capital of the ſame name, a large and handſome city. The chief places of Guelderland are Nimeguen and Zutphen.—The Capital of Overvyſſel is Deventer.—That of Frieſland is Leewaerden, a rich and well fortified city. And Groeningen has a capital of the ſame name.

In that part of Flanders poſſeſſed by the Dutch, the chief towns are Hulſt, Sluys, and Ardenburg. The capital of the Imperial Flanders is Ghent, a very large city; the other places of note are Bruges, Ypres, Tournay, Menin, Courtray, Oudenard, Dendermond, and the ports of Oſtend and Nieuport; the capital of French Flanders is Liſle, a very ſtrong and beautiful city; next to which is Dovay. And to theſe muſt be added the important fortreſs and harbour of Dunkirk.—The capital of Brabant (and of all the Auſtrian Netherlands) is Bruſſels, a pleaſant and populous city, the reſidence of the regent of theſe provinces; Louvain is another famous city and univerſity.—In Dutch Brabant are the ſtrong towns of Bergen-op-Zoom, Breda, Boiſledue, Maeſtricht, and ſeveral others.—The Capital of Artois, which belongs to the French, is Arras; and its other towns of note are St. Omer, Aire, and Bethune.—The chief cities in French Hainault, are Cambray and Valencennies. In that part which belongs to the houſe of Auſtria, there are few noted places beſides Mons, a well fortified city.—The province of Namur has a capital of the ſame name, one of the ſtrongeſt cities in the Netherlands.—Luxemburg, the capital of the Duchy, is alſo a place of great ſtrength. In this province the French have Thionville, Montmedy, and ſome other towns.—The Capital of the Duchy of Limburg bears the ſame name, and is remarkable

for being ſituated on a ſteep rock. The Dutch have ſome towns in this province.—The biſhoprick of Liege, (which is one of the ten provinces of the Netherlands though included in the circle of Weſtphalia) has likewiſe its capital of the ſame name, a large, populous, and wealthy city. In this biſhoprick is Spa, celebrated for its mineral waters.—The Marquiſate of the empire is in the Auſtrian Brabant, though reckoned as a ſeparate province. Its capital is Antwerp, a ſtrong and beautiful city, and formerly a place of vaſt trade, till it was drawn from thence to Amſterdam —The Lordſhip of Mechlin or Malines, is alſo in Brabant, though it makes the tenth province. Its capital is Mechlin, which (as well as Bruſſels, Louvain. Mons, Namur, and Antwerp) is now in the hands of the Auſtrians.

II. *The Circle of* WESTPHALIA.

We have already taken notice of the biſhoprick of Liege, which is uſually included in this circle. Add to this the biſhoprick of Munſter, Oſnabrug, and Paderborn, whoſe capitals bear the ſame names; the firſt whereof is ſometimes reckoned the chief city of the whole circle of Weſtphalia.—This circle alſo contains the Duchies of Berg and Juliers, belonging to the elector Palatine, whoſe uſual reſidence is Duſſeldorp; the Duchies of Cleves, Meurs, and Minden belonging to the king of Pruſſia; and the Duchy of Eaſt-Frieſland, which has

a prince of its own, who uſually reſides at Aurick, the chief town Embden not acknowledging his ſovereignty.—There are many counties in this circle, whereof thoſe of Odenburg and Delmenhorſt belong to the crown of Denmark, and thoſe of Ravenſburg, Lingen, and Marck to the king of Pruſſia.—Nor ought we to forget the free imperial city of Aix-la-Chapelle, formerly the reſidence of Charles the Great, and famous on account of its baths.

III. *The Circle of* LOWER SAXONY.

One of the chief diviſions of this circle is the Duchy of Holſtein, poſſeſſed partly by the duke, and partly ſubject to Denmark. Its principal towns are Keil, belonging to the duke; and Renſburg, belonging to his Daniſh majeſty. The other duchies are thoſe of Bremen and Verden, formerly belonging to the crown of Sweden, now to the king of Great Britain. The Duchy of Mecklenburgh, which has ſeveral good towns; but Mechlenburg, formerly a very large city, is now an inconſiderable place. The Duchy of Saxe-Lauenburg, which belongs to the houſe of Hanover. That of Magdeburgh, with a large capital of the ſame name, belonging to the king of Pruſſia. The Duchy of Halberſtadt which likewiſe belongs to his Pruſſian majeſty, its chief city bearing the ſame name. The Duchies of Brunſwick, Lunenburgh and Wolfenbuttle, ſo denominated from their principal

cities; and, laſtly, the biſhoprick of Hideſheim.—The duke of Brunſwick (his Britannic majeſty) is one of the electors of the empire; and in this Duchy of Hanover, his uſual reſidence when he viſits his electorate. The free imperial cities in this circle are Lubeck, Hamburgh, and Bremen, all places of great trade, and three of the remaining Hanſe towns. This name was given to a great number of trading cities, formerly united in a ſtrict league, under laws and regulations of their own appointing, for the better carrying on of commerce, and their mutual ſafety and aſſiſtance. So powerful was the confederacy of the Hanſe at one time, that they kept the northern princes in awe; and particularly in the year 1428 they equipped a numerous fleet, on board of which they had 12000 regular troops beſides ſeamen, and made war againſt Eric, king of Denmark. But their power is now dwindled away, and few towns retain any thing more than the name of this celebrated aſſociation.

IV. *The Circle of* Upper Saxony.

This circle may be divided into ſix principal parts, viz. 1. The Duchy of Saxony, properly ſo called, the capital whereof is Wittenburg, famous for Luther's firſt preaching there againſt the pope's indulgences. 2. Thuringia, the capital of which is Erfurt, ſubject to the elector of Mentz. This diviſion alſo comprehends ſeveral principalities belonging

to different branches of the houſe of Saxony, particularly the Duchies of Gotha, Weimar, and Eyſenach, ſo denominated from their chief cities. To theſe add the counties of Schwartzburg, Mansfeld, and ſome others, with the imperial cities of Mulhauſen and Northauſen. 3. The marquiſate of Miſnia, wherein is Dreſden, a large city, the uſual reſidence of the elector of Saxony. There are ſeveral other conſiderable cities in Miſnia, particularly Leipſick, a place of great trade. 4. The electorate of Brandenburg, the chief city whereof is Berlin, the reſidence of the elector, who is alſo king of Pruſſia. Its other places of note are Brandenburg, and Frankfort upon the Oder. 5. Pomerania, part of which belongs to the king of Pruſſia, and part to the crown of Sweden. The chief places of the former are Stettin and Cammin; of the latter, Stralſund, and Wolgaſt. 6. The principality of Anhalt, the chief towns whereof are Deſſau, Bernburg, and Zerbſt, belonging to three different branches of the houſe of Anhalt.

V. *The Circle of the* Lower Rhine.

This circle comprehends four electorates, viz. 1. The Palatinate of the Rhine, the capital whereof is Heidelberg, though the elector uſually reſides at Manheim. 2. The electorate of Mentz, ſo denominated from its capital, a rich and ſtrong city, the reſidence of the elector. 3. The electorate of Triers or Treves

whoſe capital bears the ſame name. 4. The electorate of Cologn, its capital the ſame, a large and populous city.

VI. *The Circle of the* Upper Rhine.

This circle (part of which is intermingled with that of the Lower Rhine) contains, 1. The Landgraviate of Heſſe, the chief cities whereof are Caſſel and Marpurg. 2. The Wetteraw, comprehending the Landgraviate of Heſſe Darmſtadt, the counties of Naſſau, Catzenelbogen, Solms, Waldeck, Inſenburg, Hanau, and ſeveral others, which take their names from their reſpective capitals: alſo the Abbacy of Fulda, ſome territories belonging to the electors of Mentz and Triers, and the imperial city of Frankfort, where the emperors are elected, with thoſe of Wetzlar, Friedburg, and Gelenhauſen. 3. Alſace, which now belongs to the French, as has been already mentioned. 4. The Duchy of Deux-ponts, and the biſhopricks of Worms and Spires, whoſe capitals bear the ſame name. 5. The Duchy of Montbelliard, ſo called from its capital, which is well fortified; and the biſhoprick of Baſil, which lies near the Canton of that name in Swiſſerland. Its chief town is Porentru, the reſidence of the biſhop.

VII. *The Circle of* Franconia.

There are many ſovereignties in this circle,

the chief of which are, 1. The bi-ſhopricks of Wurtzburg, Bamberg, and Aichſtadt, ſo named from their reſpective capitals. 2. The ſtates of the Teutonic Order, the capital of which is Mergentheim or Mariendal. 3. The Marquiſites of Anſpach and Cullenbach; the Duchies of Coburg, Hildburghauſen, and Schwartzenberg; and the counties of Caſtel, Erpach, Henneberg, Wertheim, &c. which take their names from their ſeveral capitals. 4. In this circle are ſeveral free imperial cities, the chief of which is Nuremberg, remarkable for the toys that are made there, and ſent all over Europe. The reſt are Rotenberg, Weiſſenburgh, Windſheim, and Schweinfurt.

VIII. *The Circle of* SUABIA.

This circle comprehends, 1. The biſhopricks of Augſburg and Conſtance. 2. The Duchies of Wirtemburg, Furſtenburg, and Hohenzollern. 3. The Marquiſate of Baden, divided into the Upper and Lower Marquiſate. Baden (ſo called from its hot baths) is the capital of the former, and Dourlach of the latter. 4. The free counties of Oetingen, Koningeſeck, Waldburgh, Montfort, and ſeveral others. 5. The houſe of Auſtria has divers territories in this circle, the moſt noted towns whereof are Briſac and Friburg, two very ſtrong fortifications; and Conſtance, formerly a free city. 6. The elector of Bavaria has alſo ſome territories in this circle, particularly the principality of Min-

delheim, which was given by the emperor to the duke of Marlborough, in 1706, but reſtored to the elector at the peace of Raſtadt. 7. The imperial free cities in the circle of Suabia are Augſburg (a place of great trade and riches) Ulm, Hailbron, and ſeveral others of leſs note.

IX. *The Circle of* BAVARIA.

In this circle are comprehended, 1. The electorate of Bavaria, or Bavaria Proper, the capital of which is Munich, one of the fineſt cities of the empire, and the reſidence of the elector. Its other towns of note are Ingolſtadt, Donawert, Landſhut, Straubing, and Burkhauſen. 2. The Upper Palatinate, which formerly belonged to the elector Palatine, but now to Bavaria. Its capital is Amberg; and in this diviſion are the little towns of Hochſtet and Blenheim, made famous by the ſignal victory obtained there by the allied army over the French and Bavarians in 1704. 3. The Duchy of Newburgh. 4. The archbiſhoprick of Saltſburg, whoſe capital bears the ſame name, and is a large and populous city. 5. The biſhopricks of Paſſau, Frieſingen, and Ratiſbon; which laſt is a free imperial city, where the diets of the empire are held, and the biſhop's authority within it extends no farther than his palace and cathedral.—There are ſome other little ſtates within this circle not worth mentioning.

X. *The Circle of* AUSTRIA.

This contains. 1. The Archduchy of Auſtria the chief city whereof is Vienna, the uſual reſidence of the emperors, and therefore looked upon as the capital of the whole empire, Lintz is a large and pleaſant city, the capital of Upper Auſtria. 2. The Duchy of Stiria, the chief towns whereof are Gratz and Judenberg. 3. The Duchy of Carinthia, whoſe capital is Clagenfurt, remarkable for the breadth of its walls. 4. The Duchy of Carniola, of which the chief town is Laubach. 5. The county of Tyrol, comprehending Tyrol Proper, the capital whereof is Inſpruck: the biſhoprick of Brixen; and that of Trent; which city is famous for a general council held there in the ſixteenth century.

Under the circle of Auſtria we may likewiſe comprehend another conſiderable part of Germany, viz. the kingdom of

BOHEMIA.

This is diſtinguiſhed into four general parts, namely, 1. Bohemia Proper, which is ſubdivided into eighteen little provinces, called circles, containing many ſtrong towns and cities, the chief whereof is Prague, the capital of the kingdom, a large, populous, and trading city; but it has ſuffered much, it having been ſeveral times beſieged and plundered before the commencement of the preſent troubles in Europe.

2. The Duchy of Sileſia, which contains many leſſer duchies and lordſhips, of too little conſequence to be here enumerated. The capital of the whole country is Breſlaw, remarkable for a late treaty by which great part of Sileſia was given up to the king of Pruſſia. 3. The Marquiſate of Moravia, whoſe chief cities are Olmutz and Brin. 4. The Marquiſate of Luſatia, the capital whereof is Pautzen or Bautzen. This country had formerly its own marquis; then it fell to the crown of Bohemia, and afterwards to the elector of Saxony, to whom the greateſt part of it ſtill belongs.

Here it may be expected we ſhould treat of Hungary, Tranſylvania, and other countries which belong chiefly to the houſe of Auſtria; but theſe will more properly fall under the head of European Turkey. It remains however (before we leave Germany) to give ſome account of

Swisserland.

This country comprehends thirteen Cantons, that is, ſo many different republics, all united in one confederacy for their mutual preſervation. Their names are Zurich, Bern, Baſil, and Schaffhauſen, which are Proteſtant cantons; Lucern, Friburg, Solothern, Switz, Uri, Underwald, and Zug, which are Catholic cantons; and Glaris and Appenzel, which are partly one, and partly the other. Each canton has a capital of its own name, except Uri and Underwald, the chief town of the former being Altof, and Stantz of the latter.

In treating of Swiſſerland, geographers uſually include the Swiſs ſubjects, and the Swiſs allies.—By the former are meant ſeveral ſmall territories, which have been admitted by the cantons into their covenant, not as confederates, but as mere ſubjects. Theſe are the towns of Baden with its territory; the Thargaw, Bremgarten, Mellingen, Rheinthal, &c. towards Germany; and the four governments of Lugano, Lucarno, Mendris, and Val Brenna, on the ſide of Italy.—The Swiſs allies are ſeveral governments round about them, who at different times have made treaties of alliance with the Cantons. The moſt conſiderable of theſe are, 1. The republic of the Griſons, whoſe chief city is Coire; and to theſe belong the territory of Chiavenna, the Voltoline, and Bormio. 2. The Valais, the capital whereof is Sion, whoſe biſhop is a prince of the empire. 3. The republic of Geneva, ſo denominated from its capital, a rich, well built, and populous city, ſituated upon a lake of the ſame name, which is near ſixty miles in length, and about twelve in breadth, through which the river Rhone takes its courſe. 4. The city and abbacy of St. Gall, whoſe abbot is a prince of the empire. 5. To theſe add the little republic of Bienna, the biſhoprick of Baſil, and the county of Neufchatel, which laſt belongs to the king of Pruſſia.

Q. What account do you give of the air, ſoil, &c. of the ſeveral countries you have been ſpeaking of under the general head of Germany?

A. I ſhall firſt conſider the ſeventeen provinces of the Netherlands, or what we uſually call Holland and Flanders; and then the reſt of this vaſt country, under the title of Upper Germany.

I. Holland *and* Flanders.

Air.] The air of Holland (or the ſeven united Provinces) is generally moiſt and foggy, which makes the inhabitants ſubject to frequent agues. The air of Flanders (or the other ten provinces) is reckoned more healthful, except in thoſe marſhy parts that lie near the ſea. The ſharp froſts, however, which they commonly have in the winter, are of great ſervice to purify the air of theſe countries.

Soil.] As Holland lies very low, it is naturally wet and fenny; but it is ſo well drained by a great number of artificial canals, that it s fit either for paſture or tillage, eſpecially the former; and therefore the Hollanders employ moſt of their land in grazing, and import abundance of corn from other countries. The ſoil of Flanders in general is very fertile, producing ſuch plenty of grain, roots, and herbage, that is hardly to be equalled by any ſpot of ground in Europe.

Commodities.] The natural products of Holland are chiefly butter and cheeſe, but the people apply themſelves with ſuch diligence to their manufactures of various kinds, that they export great quantities to foreign markets, and

generally under-ſell their neighbours. They likewiſe import whatever is uſeful or valuable from other countries, carrying on a prodigious trade in moſt parts of the known world, inſomuch that the number of their ſhipping is reckoned nearly equal to that of England.—The chief commodities of Flanders are fine lace, linen, cambricks, threads, tapes, wrought ſilks, worſted ſtuffs, tapeſtry, &c.

RARITIES.] At Haerlem in Holland (which city diſputes with Mentz and Straſbourgh the honour of the invention of printing) they ſhew a copy of Tully's Offices, which they pretend to be the firſt book that ever was printed in Europe.—Near Mæſtricht is a remarkable ſtone quarry, running under a large hill which is ſupported by ſome thouſands of ſquare pillars, left by the workmen for that purpoſe.—In the univerſity at Leyden are to be ſeen ſeveral Roman and Egyptian urns, a very ancient image of the Egyptian god Oſiris, another of Iſis giving ſuck to her ſon, two Egyptian mummies, the horn and ſkin of a rhinoceros, and many other curioſities.—There is a lake near St. Omer's in which are ſeveral floating iſlands, ſome of them inhabited.

CHARACTER.] The Dutch fall ſhort of their neighbours in politeneſs, being ſo much taken up with the thoughts of trade, as to have little regard to modes and ceremonies in their behaviour. In general they are a plain, frugal, induſtrious people, honeſt in their deal-

ings, and weighing every undertaking well before they begin it. They are particularly remarkable for neatneſs in their houſes, and even in their ſtreets. Their language is a dialect of the German.—As to the character of the inhabitants of Flanders, being a mixture of Dutch, French, and Germans, we may judge of it by conſidering the manners and tempers of thoſe three nations. Their vulgar tongue (called the Walloon) is a ſort of old French, intermixed with ſome Dutch, German, and Spaniſh words.

GOVERNMENT.] The ſeven united provinces make up one commonwealth, the moſt conſiderable in the world, which is governed by the aſſembly of the ſtates general, conſiſting of ſeven voices, each province having one. This aſſembly makes war or peace, enters into alliances, raiſes money for the public ſervice, &c. But nothing of this nature is determined without the conſent of every province, a plurality of voices not being ſufficient. Neither can the ſtates of each province conclude any thing without the concurrence of the ſeveral cities, of whoſe deputies or repreſentatives the provincial aſſembly is compoſed. The Hague a pleaſant town in Holland, is the place where the ſtates general uſually aſſemble.—The government of Flanders is different, as it is ſubject to different maſters, viz. the Dutch, French, and Auſtrians.

RELIGION.] The reformed religion, ac-

cording to the doctrines of Calvin, is the eſtabliſhed religion of the united provinces, but all denominations of Chriſtians are tolerated.—Popery prevails throughout all Flanders, except in thoſe parts poſſeſſed by the Dutch.

II. Upper Germany.

Air.] In the north of Germany the air is very cold, but in the ſouth it is temperate.

Soil.] The ſoil of ſo large a country as Germany, muſt be ſuppoſed to be of various kinds. In ſome parts it is over-run with woods and mountains, but in general it is fertile, producing plenty of corn, fruit, and whatever is neceſſary for the ſuſtenance of mankind. The kingdom of Bohemia has not only corn ſufficient for its inhabitants, but ſupplies the wants of its neighbours. Switzerland is mountainous and barren, except in the vales, which afford good paſturage, but not much corn.—The chief rivers of Germany are the Danube, the Rhine, the Elbe, and the Oder.

Commodities.] The chief commodities of this country are linen, linen-yarn, kid-ſkins, alum, ſalt, quickſilver, corn, wine, iron, &c. In Bohemia and Sileſia there are ſeveral mines of gold, ſilver, copper, and other metals; but they are much neglected: In theſe countries they alſo find diamonds, rubies, hyacinths, and other precious ſtones. Switzerland ſends abroad horſes, black cattle, butter, and cheeſe.

Rarities.] There are many remarkable

ſprings in Germany particularly one near Padetborn in Weſtphalia, which has three ſtreams differing from each in colour, taſte, and qualities.—In Lower Saxony ſeveral ſtones have been dug out of the ground, reſembling men, fiſhes and other animals; and in the ſame circle are two rocks ſo formed by nature as to look like two monks in their proper habits.

CHARACTER.] The Germans are brave, patient of labour, fair in their dealings, hoſpitable, and enemies to flattery and diſſimulation. They are good mechanics and chemiſts; and their learned men apply themſelves to their ſtudies with unwearied diligence, though they are reckoned of a dull and heavy genius. The Swiſs are excellent ſoldiers, and generally faithful to their engagements, either as mercenaries or allies.—The language of Germany (commonly called High Dutch) is a very ancient one, from whence the Daniſh, Swediſh, and ſeveral others are derived. It is divided into a great many dialects even in the empire itſelf.

GOVERNMENT.] Germany comprehends above three hundred different ſovereignties, the chief of which have been mentioned in ſubdividing the ſeveral circles; but all or moſt of theſe pay homage to one ſupreme head or emperor, who is choſen by nine electors, viz. the archbiſhops of Mentz, Triers, and Cologn, the king of Bohemia, (but this vote is diſ-

puted by ſome of the electors) the duke of Bavaria, the duke of Saxony, the marquis of Brandenburg (king of Pruſſia) the prince Palatine of the Rhine, and the elector of Hanover (king of England.) The electors are the principal members of the empire, and are abſolute ſovereigns in their own dominions. The general diet or aſſembly of the ſtates of the empire conſiſts of the electors, and other princes eccleſiaſtical and ſecular, and the deputies of the imperial or free cities. In this aſſembly the emperor preſides, and has a negative voice. Whoſoever is choſen king of the Romans, is looked upon as preſumptive ſucceſſor to the empire.—The government in ſome of the Swiſs Cantons is ariſtocratical, being in the hands of the nobles; in others democratical, or in the hands of the people. In caſes of great importance not only the deputies of the Cantons but their allies meet together in a general diet, ſometimes at Baden, ſometimes at Araw. The republic of Geneva is governed in ordinary matters by magiſtrates called Syndics, and a council of twenty-five; but the more weighty affairs of ſtate are conſidered and determined by a council of two hundred.

RELIGION.] Popery is eſtabliſhed in the greateſt part of Germany; but in the dominions of the king of Pruſſia, and in ſeveral ſtates and cities of the empire, the Proteſtant religion prevails, either according to the doctrine of Luther or Calvin.—The religion of Swiſ-

ſerland has been already taken notice of.—That of Geneva is Calviniſm.

Sect. VII.

Of POLAND.

Q. HOW is Poland bounded, and what is its extent?

A. It is bounded on the eaſt by part of Muſcovy and Little Tartary on the weſt by Upper Germany; on the north part of Muſcovy, Livonia, and the Baltic Sea; and on the ſouth by Hungary, Tranſylvania, and Moldavia. Its length is about 780 miles, and its breadth 550.

Q. How is it divided?

A. Into ten general parts, viz. Poland Proper, Mazovia, Pruſſia, Courland, Samogitia, Polachia, Little Ruſſia, Lithuania, Volbinia, and Podolia. And theſe comprehend a great number of governments, called Palatinates.

Q. Which are the chief towns of theſe general diviſions?

A. 1. Poland Proper is diſtinguiſhed into Upper or Leſſer Poland, and Lower or Greater Poland. In the former is Cracow, a large city, by ſome reckoned the capital of the whole kingdom; alſo Sendomir and Lublin,

well fortified and trading cities. In the latter are Gneſna, a very ancient city, whoſe archbiſhop is primate of Poland; likewiſe Poſna, Lencici Wladiſlaw, and ſeveral others. 2. In the province of Mozovia is Warſaw, now generally eſteemed the chief city of the kingdom, being the uſual reſidence of the king, and the place where the general diets aſſemble. 3. Pruſſia is divided into Poliſh or Royal Pruſſia, and Brandenburg or Ducal Pruſſia, the former belonging to the crown of Poland, and the latter to the elector of Brandenburg, which in the year 1701, was erected into a kingdom. The capital of Poliſh Pruſſia is Dantzick, a ſtrong, rich, and trading city on the Baltic, near the mouth of the Viſtula. Its other places of note are Marienburg, Elbing, Culm and Thorn. In the Ducal Pruſſia is Konigſburg, a city of great trade; alſo Memel, Piſlaw, and ſeveral other ſtrong towns. 4. The capital of the Duchy of Courland is Mittaw, the uſual reſidence of the duke; its other towns of note are Bauſke, Goldengen, Windaw, and Libaw. 5. The chief towns of Samogitia are Roſienne, Midnick, and Birza. 6. Polachia has few places worth mentioning except Bielſk. 7. Little or Red Ruſſia has Lemberg, Belz, and Chelm. 8. Lithuania is a very large Duchy, the capital whereof is Wilna: beſides which there are Troki, Norvogodeck, and other cities, the capitals of the ſeveral palatinates into which the Duchy is divided; to which we

may add Grodno, where the diets of Luthuania generally aſſemble. 9. The capital of the Upper Volhinia is Lutu or Lucko. Of the Lower (which is the Poliſh Ukraine or country of the Coſſacks) the chief city is Kiow, belonging to the Muſcovites. 10. Podolia is alſo divided into the Upper and Lower. Kaminiec, a place of great ſtrength, is the capital of the former, and Braclaw of the latter.

Q. What account do you give of the air, ſoil, &c. of Poland?

Air.] The air of this country is generally pure and healthful, except in Lithuania; but the cold is often very ſevere in winter.

Soil.] In general the ſoil of Poland is exceedingly fertile, affording great plenty of corn, eſpecially wheat and rye. The face of the country is for the moſt part level, in ſome places marſhy and full of lakes, in others overrun with woods, and there are ſome mountains which have mines of ſilver, copper, iron, and lead. Its chief rivers are the Viſtula, the Nieper, and the Nieſter.

Commodities.] Theſe are corn, cattle, hemp, flax, linen, leather, hides, tallow, hops, furs, pitch, maſts, planks, pot-aſhes, ſalt, ſoap, honey, wax, amber, wool, iron, lead, copper, glaſs, nitre, and vitriol.

Rarities.] Among the curioſities of Poland we may reckon its ſalt mines, eſpecially thoſe near Cracow, wherein upwards of a thouſand men are conſtantly employed.—There

is a ſpring near Culm, whoſe waters are never hot, though a ſulphurous ſtream ariſes from it continually.

CHARACTER.] The Polanders (that is, the nobility and gentry) are ſincere, brave, hoſpitable, civil to ſtrangers, lovers of reſpect, and extremely jealous of their honour and liberty; but the boors or peaſants are perfect ſlaves.—Their language is a dialect of the Sclavonian; but, in ſome cities the German tongue prevails, in others the Ruſſian. That of the Lithuanians is very different from the other provinces.

GOVERNMENT.] Poland is governed by a king, who is elected by the clergy and nobility; but his power is ſo much limited by the diet, that he is rather to be looked upon as the chief regent of a commonwealth.

RELIGION.] Popery is the eſtabliſhed religion in Poland; but Proteſtants, Jews, and even Mahometans are tolerated. In Little Ruſſia and Podolia there are many Armenians, and others of the Greek church on the frontiers of Muſcovy, who have alſo the free exerciſe of their religion. In Pruſſia, and in the Duchy of Courland, the majority of the inhabitants are Lutherans.

Sect. VIII.

Of SPAIN *and* PORTUGAL.

Q. How is Spain bounded, and what is its extent?

A. It is bounded on the east by the Mediterranean; on the west by Portugal and the Atlantic ocean; on the north by the Bay of Biscay and the Pyrenean mountains, which separate it from France; and on the south by the ocean, the streights of Gibraltar, and the Mediterranean. Its length is about 640 miles, and its breadth about 500.

Q. How is Spain divided?

A. Into thirteen provinces, namely, New Castile, Old Castile, Leon, Arragon, and Navarre, which are inland provinces; Andalusia, Granada, Murcia, Valencia, and Catalonia, which are washed by the ocean and Mediterranean; and Gallicia, Asturia, and Biscay, which lie along the Bay that takes its name from the last mentioned province.

Q. Which are the most remarkable places in this country?

A. 1. In New Caſtile is Madrid, the capital of the whole kingdom; and Toledo, a large city, the richeſt archbiſhopric in Chriſtendom. 2. The chief cities in Old Caſtile, are Burgos and Valladolid. But here it is proper to obſerve, that Eſtremadura, which was reckoned a diſtinct province of Spain, its capital being Badajos, is now taken partly into Old and partly into New Caſtile. 3. Leon (formerly a kingdom) has a capital of the ſame name; alſo Aſtorga, Salamanca, and ſome other cities. 4. The capital of Arragon, (once a kingdom) is Saragoſſa. 5. That of Navarre (formerly a kingdom, as were moſt of the other provinces) is Pampeluna, a flouriſhing city. 6. The capital of Andaluſia is Seville, which exceeds all the cities of Spain for trade, riches, and beauty. The other places of note in this province are Gibraltar, a very ſtrong fortreſs at the mouth of the ſtreights to which it gives name, now belonging to Great Britain; and Cadiz, a famous ſeaport, with an excellent harbour, and well fortified. 7. The capital of Grenada bears the ſame name, and is a large well-built city, but not very populous. In this province is Malaga, a ſtrong ſeaport, noted for its wines and raiſins. 8. The chief places in Murcia is Murcia its capital, and Carthagena, a good ſeaport. 9. The capital of Valencia, which bears the ſame name, is a rich and beautiful city: and Alicant is a ſtrong ſeaport in this province. 10. In Catalonia is

Barcelona, its capital, which has a good harbour, is well fortified, and remarkable for the ſeveral ſieges it has ſuſtained. Its other towns of note are Tarragona, Tortoſa, Lerida, Giromes, and Roſes. 11. The capital of Gallicia is Compoſtella or St. Jago, whither great numbers of pilgrims reſort to pay their devotions to St. James the Apoſtle, whoſe body (they ſay) is there depoſited. Its noted ſeaports are Vigo, Corunna or the Groin, and Ferrol. 12. In Auſtria, or Auſturias, the places of moſt note are Oviedo, Santillana, and Villa Vicioſa. 13. The Capital of Biſcay is Bilboa, a rich trading city, with a good harbour. Its other conſiderable towns are Fonterabia, St. Sebaſtian's, and St. Andero, all ſtrong ſeaports.

Q. Of what nature is the air, ſoil, &c. of Spain?

Air.] The air of Spain is generally pure and dry, but extremely hot in ſummer, eſpecially in the ſouthern provinces.

Soil.] Several parts of Spain are ſandy and barren, over-run with woods, or encumbered with rocky mountains; but in many places the ſoil is naturally fertile, though it is not well cultivated, either through the pride or lazineſs of the inhabitants. What they want in corn, however, is ſupplied by variety of excellent fruit and wines, of which they have great plenty.—The chief rivers of Spain are the Tagus or Tajo, the Ebro, the Guadalquivir, the Guadiana, and the Douro.

COMMODITIES.] The principal are wine, oil, fruits of various ſorts, wool, lamb-ſkins, honey, ſoap, cork, anchovies, &c.

RARITIES.] In the city of Granada is a large ſumptuous palace of the Mooriſh kings, the walls whereof are lined with jaſper and porphyry.—In Tarragona are to be ſeen the ruins of an ancient circus; in Old Caſtile are the remains of an aqueduct built by the emperor Trajan; and at Toledo ſome part of a Roman theatre is yet ſtanding.

CHARACTER.] The Spaniards are grave in diſcourſe, majeſtic in their deportment, patient in adverſity, faithful to their monarch, temperate in eating and drinking, delicate in point of honour, jealous, laſcivious, revengeful, and tyrants over a vanquiſhed enemy. They are much addicted to lazineſs and pride, and look upon huſbandry and mechanical arts with the greateſt contempt. As to their perſons, they are generally tall and well proportioned, of a ſwarthy complexion, with black hair and ſparkling eyes.—The Spaniſh tongue is derived from the Latin, but is intermixed with ſome Gothic and Mooriſh words.

GOVERNMENT.] Spain is governed by a king, who is an abſolute monarch. The crown is hereditary, and deſcends to females.

RELIGION.] The Roman Catholic is the eſtabliſhed religion of Spain; nor is any other denomination of chriſtians tolerated. People of a different perſuaſion muſt behave very cauti-

ouſly, and keep their ſentiments within their own breaſts, or they run a great hazard of being delivered over to the Inquiſition, a tribunal whoſe ſevere and mercileſs treatment of ſuch as they call Heretics is well known to the world.

Portugal.

Q. How is Portugal bounded, and what is its extent?

A. It is bounded by the Atlantic ocean on the ſouth and weſt, by Gallicia on the north, and by other Spaniſh provinces on the eaſt. Its length is about 300 miles, and its breadth about 120.

Q. How is it divided?

A. Into ſix provinces, viz. Eſtremadura, Beira, Entre Minho e Douro, Tra los Montes, Alentejo, and Algarva.

Q. Which are the chief towns in theſe provinces?

A. 1. In Eſtremadura is Liſbon, the capital of the kingdom, a city of great trade and riches, with an excellent harbour; alſo St. Ubes, or Setuval, a good port, much frequented by the Dutch for ſalt. 2. The capital of Beira is Coimbra. 3. In the province called Entre Minho e Douro, from its lying between thoſe two rivers, is Braga, a large and populous city; alſo Porto (frequently called Oporto) a place of great trade, eſpecially in wines. 4.

The chief city of Tralos Montes (i. e. beyond the mountains) Braganza, from whoſe dukes the preſent king of Portugal is deſcended. Its other towns of note are Miranda and Villa Real. The chief places in Alentejo are Evora, (its capital) Beja, Portalegre, and Elvos, which is well fortified. 6. In Algarva (which has the title of a kingdom) the chief towns are Tavira, Faro, and Lagos.

Q. What do you ſay of the air, ſoil, &c. of Portugal?

AIR.] The air of Portugal is pure and wholeſome, the heat being moderated by frequent weſterly winds and cool breezes from the ſea.

SOIL.] The ſoil of Portugal neither produces much paſturage, nor corn ſufficient for the uſe of its inhabitants, great part of the country being encumbered with barren mountains; but they have plenty of excellent wines and fruits.—The chief rivers of Portugal are the Tagus, the Douro, and the Guadiana.

COMMODITIES.] Theſe are wine, oil, ſalt, oranges, lemons, pomegranates, almonds, and other fruits.

RARITIES.] Pieces of ſhips have been found in a lake on the top of a hill called Stella, more than twelve leagues diſtant from the ſea.—Another lake is remarkable for making a rumbling noiſe before a ſtorm, ſo loud as to be heard at the diſtance of twelve or fifteen miles.

CHARACTER.] The Portugueſe were formerly a valiant people, and noted for their ſkill in navigation, and their diſcoveries of ſeveral unknown parts of the world. They ſtill apply themſelves to commerce, and are ſaid to be covetous, treacherous, and very crafty in their dealings. The nobility and gentry are magnificent and hoſpitable, but the rabble are much addicted to thieving. In pride, cruelty, and many other reſpects, they very much reſemble the Spaniards. Their language is a compound of French and Spaniſh, eſpecially the latter.

GOVERNMENT.] Portugal, after many ſurpriſing turns of fortune, was ſeized upon by Philip II. of Spain in the year 1580, and continued a Spaniſh province till 1640, at which time it recovered its independency, and has ever ſince been governed by its own king, who is abſolute, and his crown hereditary.

RELIGION.] Popery is the eſtabliſhed religion of Portugal; and though there are many Jews in the kingdom, they are very reſerved, for fear of the Inquiſition.

SECT. IX.

Of ITALY.

Q. HOW is Italy bounded, and what is its extent?

A. It is bounded northwards by the Alps, which ſeparates it from France and Germany; on the eaſt by the Adriatic ſea, or gulph of Venice: and on the weſt and ſouth by the Mediterranean. Its greateſt length from north-eaſt to ſouth-weſt is about 800 miles; but its breadth is very unequal, being above 300 miles in the northern part, in other places about 100, and in ſome not above 80.

Q. How is it divided, and which are its chief cities?

A. It may be divided into three general parts, viz. the Upper, Middle, and Lower; of which in order.

I. *The Upper Part contains,*

1. The Duchy of Savoy, belonging to the king of Sardinia, the capital whereof is Cham-

bery. 2. The principality of Piedmont, belonging to the ſame king, whoſe capital is Turin, his uſual reſidence, and one of the moſt beautiful cities in Europe, with a ſtrong citadel. There are ſeveral other places of ſtrength in this principality, particularly Coni and Verceil. 3. The Duchy of Montferrat, belonging chiefly to his Sardinian majeſty, the capital of which is Caſal. 4. The Duchy of Milan, (ſubject to the emperor) whoſe capital of the ſame name is a large, rich, and populous city. Its other towns of note are Como, Cremona, Pavia, Tortona, Bobbio, &c. 5. The Duchy of Mantua (likewiſe under the emperor) takes its name from its capital, which is ſtrong both by art and nature, being well fortified and ſituated in the middle of a lake or moraſs. 6. The Duchies of Parma and Placentia, (belonging to the duke of Parma) ſo denominated from their chief cities. 7. The Duchy of Modena, (under its own duke) ſo called from its capital. Its other noted places are Reggio, and Mirandola. 8. The republic of Venice, the capital whereof bearing the ſame name, is built on 72 iſlands in the Adriatic ſea or gulph of Venice, four or five miles from the continent. It is a city of great trade, riches, and magnificence, and by its ſituation is almoſt impregnable. This republic has ſeveral fine cities on the Terra Firma, as Padua, Verona, Bergamo, Breſcia, Vecenza, &c. and Cabo d'Iſtria, the capital of Iſtria, on the eaſtern coaſt of the Adriatic. 9. The

republic of Genoa, which is the name of its capital, a well-built, rich, trading city and ſeaport. Its other towns of note upon the ſea-coaſt are Spezza, Savona, Final, Ventimiglia, Monaco, &c.

II. *The Middle Part comprehends,*

1. The great Duchy of Tuſcany, (which has its own duke, a prince of the houſe of Auſtria) the capital whereof is Florence, a large, magnificent, and pleaſant city. Its other cities of note are Piſa, Sienna, and Leghorn, which laſt is a noted ſeaport of very great trade. To theſe add Piombino, belonging to its own prince, and Orbitello to Naples. 2. The Eccleſiaſtical State, or Dominions of the pope, the capital whereof (and in ſome ſenſe of all Italy) is Rome, the pope's uſual reſidence, an ancient, large, and beautiful city, once miſtreſs of the world. The other principal cities of the Pope's territories are Ferrara, Bologna, Ravenna, Rimini Urbino, Ancona, (a good port on the gulph of Venice) Orvieto, Perouſe or Perugia, Spoleto, Viterbo, Caſtro, and Civita Vecchia; which laſt is a conſiderable port on the Mediterranean. Nor ſhould we omit Loretto, a little ſtrong city in the diſtrict of Ancona, famous for the reſort of pilgrims to pay their devotions to the Bleſſed Virgin, whoſe houſe they pretend is there to be ſeen, having been brought thither from Nazareth by angels.

3. The republic of Lucca, which has no town of note but Lucca its capital. 4. The little republic of San-Marino, of which the whole territory is but one mountain about three miles long, on the top of which ſtands San-Marino, its chief town, and ten or twelve villages in other parts of the mountain.

III. *The Lower Part contains,*

The kingdom of Naples, which is divided into four principal provinces, viz. 1. Abruzzo, the chief places whereof are Aquila, Chieti, and Moliſa. 2. Terra di Lavoro, wherein is Naples, the capital of the kingdom, a beautiful, populous, and trading city, with an excellent harbour. Its other towns of note are Capua and Gaeta, the latter a ſeaport, and both places of ſtrength; to which add Salerno and Benevento, the chief cities of the Principate. 3. Apulia, wherein is Manfredonia, Bari, Otranto, Tarento, and Gallipoli, all ſeaports. 4. Calabria, divided into the Hither and Further, whoſe chief cities are Cozenza and Regio; and Cirenza, the capital of the Baſilicate.

Q. Of what nature is the air, ſoil, &c. of Italy?

Air.] The air of Italy in general is pure and healthful, except in ſome parts of the pope's dominions, where it is very unwholeſome in the midſt of ſummer. The heats are often tron-

bleſome in the kingdom of Naples; and on the north ſide of the Apennine mountains it is ſometimes exceeding cold.

Soil.] The ſoil of Italy is generally very fertile, producing plenty of corn, fruits, and herbage; and many parts of the country are ſo delightful, the woods and vallies wearing almoſt a perpetual verdure, that it is frequently called the Garden of Europe. It is well watered with rivers, the chief whereof are the Po, and the Adige, which flow from the Alps into the gulph of Venice; and the Tyber and the Arno, which have their ſource in the Apennine mountains, and empty themſelves into the Mediterranean.

Commodities.] The principal commodities of Italy are wine, oil, olives, rice, raw and wrought ſilks, velvets, ſoap, glaſs, paper, marble, &c.

Rarities.] To enumerate all the rarities of Italy would be an endleſs taſk. It abounds with curious monuments of antiquity, ſuch as the remains of amphitheatres, triumphal arches, columns, temples, baths, aqueducts, bridges, cauſeways, and other ſurpriſing works of the ancient Romans. In the neighbourhood of Puzzuoli, on the coaſt of Naples, a great many Roman antiquities are ſtill to be ſeen, particularly in the tomb of the famous poet Virgil, near the entrance of the grotto of Pauſilipo, which is a ſubterraneous road cut quite through a mountain. As to fine pieces of

painting, ſtatuary, and architecture, they are to be met with in every part of Italy. Of the wonders of nature we ſhall only mention that terrible volcano Veſuvius, a mountain about ſeven miles from Naples, which frequently throws out great quantities of flame, ſmoke, and ſulphureous matter.

CHARACTER.] The Italians have a good genius for arts and ſciences, are civil to ſtrangers, and very good œconomiſts. They are of an amorous diſpoſition, jealous and revengeful, and maſters of the art of diſſimulation.—Their language is derived from the Latin.

GOVERNMENT.] There are ſo many different ſovereignties in Italy, that a particular account of them all would exceed the limits of our undertaking. What parts are ſubject to the king of Sardinia, and what to the grand duke of Tuſcany, have been already mentioned. The pope (or biſhop of Rome) is ſovereign of the Eccleſiaſtical State, or land of the church. Venice and Genoa are commonwealths, governed by their ſenates, and a chief magiſtrate called a doge or duke.—The republics of Lucca and S. Marino are alſo free ſtates governed by their own magiſtrates.

RELIGION.] The Italians in general are Roman-Catholics, but the Jews are tolerated in the public exerciſe of their religion at Rome, which is an indulgen edeniedto Proteſtants.

SECT. X.

Of Turkey in Europe.

Q. HOW is European Turkey bounded, and what is its extent?

A. It is bounded by Poland, Germany, the gulph of Venice, the Archipelago, and the Euxine. Its length (excluſive of Hungary) is about 650 miles, and its breadth much the ſame.

Q. How is it divided?

A. In two general parts, viz. northern and ſouthern, with reſpect to its ſituation on this or that ſide of the Danube.

I. *The Northern Part contains,*

1. Hungary, (now ſubject to the emperor of Germany) the chief cities whereof are Preſburg, and Buda; to which add Temeſwaer, Great Waradin, Raab, and ſeveral other ſtrong fortifications. 2. Tranſylvania, (governed by its own prince, but tributary to the emperor) the capital of which is Hermanſtadt, or Zeben, a pretty large city and well fortified. 3. Walachia, whoſe prince, or hoſpodar, is a vaſſal

to the grand ſignior) the capital whereof is Targoviſco, though the prince uſually reſides at Buchareſt. 4. Moldavia, (which alſo has its own prince, but tributary to the Turks) the chief towns whereof are Jaſſi and Soczowa; and Choczim, a ſtrong place on the frontiers of Poland. 5. Beſſarabia, the chief town whereof is Bender, the reſidence of a Turkiſh Baſhaw, whither Charles XII. of Sweden, retired after the battle of Pultowa in 1709, and remained there ſeveral years. It has ſcarce any other towns of note, except Bielgorod and Kilia Nova, which are ſtrong places. Part of this province is inhabited by the Budziack or Bujac Tartars, whoſe prince reſides at Bielgorod. 6. Little or European Tartary, which being inhabited by a roving people has few towns of any account except upon the ſea-coaſt. The principal are Aſoph and Oczakow, both ſtrong places. But that part of the country called the Crimea or Crim Tartary, which is a peninſula joined to Little Tartary by a ſmall neck of land, has many conſiderable towns and cities. Bacciaſary is the capital and reſidence of the cham or ſovereign of the Tartars, who is tributary to the Turks: the chief of the reſt are Precop, or Perecop, which ſtands on the Iſthmus and is well fortified; and Caffa, a town of great trade, with a good harbour.

II. *The Southern Part contains,*

1. Romania, in which is Conſtantinople, a large, rich, and populous city, the uſual reſidence of the grand ſignior, and capital of the whole Turkiſh empire. It ſtands at the entrance of the Thracian Boſphorus, and has an excellent harbour. The other cities of note in this province are Adrianople, Trajanople, and Gallipoli. 2. Bulgaria, the capital whereof is Sophia. 3. Servia, the chief town Belgrade, a very ſtrong fortreſs on the Danube, but now diſmantled. 4. Boſnia, the capital of which is Boſna Saray. 5. Sclavonia, (now ſubject to the emperor) whoſe chief towns are Poſſega, Eſſeck, and Peterwaradin. 6. Croatia, (moſtly under the emperor) the chief towns whereof are Carlſtadt, Wibez, and Segna. 7. Dalmatia, wherein is Zara and Spalatro under the Venetians; and Raguſa, the capital of a ſmall republic, tributary to the Venetians and Turks. 8. Greece, which comprehends Albania, Epirus, Macedonia, Theſſalia, Achaia, and the Morea. The chief towns in the firſt of theſe provinces are Durazzo and Scutari; in the ſecond, Larta and Chimera; in the third, Salonichi, a large trading city and ſea-port, and Conteſſa; in the fourth, Lariſſa and Janna; in the fifth, Athens, (once the capital of a famous republic) Livadia and Lepanto; and in the ſixth, Miſitra, Napoli di Romania and di Malvaſia, Navarin, Caron, and Patras.

Q. What is the air, ſoil, &c. of European Turkey?

AIR.] The air of Romania is generally wholeſome, but that of Hungary and Little Tartary is reckoned otherwiſe. Greece for the moſt part enjoys a pure, temperate, and healthful air.

SOIL.] Romania, Greece, and Hungary abound with good corn, fruits, and paſturage. Bulgaria, Baſſarabia, and Little Tartary are much encumbered with barren mountains. The Danube is the chief river of European Turkey.

COMMODITIES.] Theſe are chiefly raw ſilk, oil, leather, cake-ſoap, honey, wax, and various fruits and drugs.

RARITIES.] In moſt parts of Greece are to be ſeen the ruins of heathen temples, and other monuments of antiquities. At Athens eſpecially there are many curioſities of this kind, one of which is the temple of Minerva, almoſt entire, reckoned the moſt beautiful piece of building in the world. At Conſtantinople we alſo find ſeveral ancient columns, and other rarities of that nature.—At Spalatto in Dalmatia is a temple of Jupiter ſtill entire, and the ruins of Dioclefian's palace.

CHARACTER.] The Turks are generally honeſt in their dealings, but the Greeks are ſaid to be otherwiſe. They are frugal, temperate, and very charitable. The Hungarians, Croates, Sclavonians, &c. are excellent ſoldiers: though many of the Tartars live by plundering

their neighbours, they are reputed juſt in their dealings with one another.—The language of the Turks is derived from the Sclavonian, and that of the Greek Chriſtians is a dialect of the ancient Greek. The Hungarians have a language of their own, but mixed with ſome Sclavonic words

GOVERNMENT.] The Turkiſh emperor (whom we uſually call the grand ſignior) has a deſpotic power over the lives and fortunes of his ſubjects, but this he exerciſes chiefly towards his miniſters and officers of ſtate.

RELIGION.] The eſtabliſhed religion of Turkey is that of Mahomet, whom the Turks believe to be a greater prophet than Jeſus Chriſt. They believe in One God, but deny the Trinity. They uſe cicumciſion, and ſet Friday apart for a day of public worſhip. Jews and Chriſtians are tolerated in the Turkiſh dominions, on paying certain impoſts to the grand ſignior. The Tartars are ſome Chriſtians, ſome Mahometans, and others Pagans.

SECT. XI.

Of the European Iſlands; and firſt of Great-Britain and Ireland.

Q. WHICH are the general parts of Great-Britain?

A. It is divided into north and South-Britain, the firſt containing Scotland, the latter England with the principality of Wales.

I. *Of England.*

Q. How is England bounded, and what is its extent?

A. It is bounded on the North by Scotland, but on all other parts by the ſea. Its length is about 350 miles, and its greateſt breadth about 250.

Q. How is England divided, and which are the chief towns?

A. It is divided into forty counties or ſhires, which with their chief towns are as follows:

Counties.	Chief Towns.
Middleſex,	*London.*
Eſſex,	*Colcheſter.*
Kent,	*Canterbury.*
Surry,	*Kingſton.*
Suſſex,	*Chicheſter.*
Suffolk,	*Ipſwich.*
Norfolk,	*Norwich.*
Cambridgeſhire,	*Cambridge.*
Huntingdonſhire,	*Huntingdon.*
Northamptonſhire,	*Northampton.*
Leiceſterſhire,	*Leiceſter.*
Rutlandſhire,	*Okeham.*
Lincolnſhire,	*Lincoln.*
Buckinghamſhire,	*Buckingham.*
Bedfordſhire,	*Bedford.*
Herefordſhire,	*Hertford.*
Nottinghamſhire,	*Nottingham.*
Derbyſhire,	*Derby.*
Warwickſhire,	*Warwick.*
Worceſterſhire,	*Worceſter.*
Staffordſhire,	*Stafford.*
Shropſhire,	*Shrewſbury.*
Cheſhire,	*Cheſter.*
Herefordſhire,	*Hereford.*
Glouceſterſhire,	*Gloceſter.*
Monmouthſhire,	*Monmouth.*
Oxfordſhire,	*Oxford.*
Berkſhire,	*Reading.*

Counties.	Chief Towns.
Hampſhire,	*Wincheſter.*
Wiltſhire,	*Saliſbury.*
Somerſetſhire,	*Briſtol.*
Dorſetſhire,	*Dorcheſter.*
Devonſhire,	*Exeter.*
Cornwall,	*Launceſton.*
Yorkſhire,	*York.*
Durham,	*Durham.*
Lancaſter,	*Lancaſter.*
Weſtmoreland,	*Appleby.*
Cumberland,	*Carliſle.*
Northumberland,	*Newcaſtle.*

Q. Into what counties is Wales divided?
A. Into twelve, namely, the

Counties of	Chief Towns.
Carmarthen,	*Carmarthen.*
Denbigh,	*Denbigh.*
Flint,	*St. Aſaph.*
Montgomery,	*Montgomery.*
Angleſey Iſle,	*Beaumaris.*
Carnarvan,	*Carnarvan.*
Pembroke,	*Pembroke.*
Radnor,	*Radnor.*
Brecknock,	*Brecknock.*
Cardigan,	*Cardigan.*
Glamorgan,	*Cardiff.*
Merioneth,	*Harlech.*

Beſides theſe already mentioned, there are many other flouriſhing towns and cities, but the chief of all is London, the capital of the kingdom, one of the largeſt cities in the world, and of the moſt extenſive commerce; next to which are York and Briſtol, the former is remarkable for its ancient cathedral, the latter a place of great trade, and riches. To theſe add the two famous univerſities, Oxford and Cambridge.

II. *Of Scotland.*

Q. What is the extent and boundaries of Scotland?

A. It is about 280 miles long, and 160 broad, but very narrow in ſome parts. On the ſouth it has England, but every other ſide is bounded by the ſea.

Q. How is it divided?

A. The northern part of Scotland is called the Highlands, and the ſouthern the Lowlands; which are divided into the following counties. 1. The ſouthern part contains Tiviotdale, Tweedale, March, Lauderdale, Liddeſdale, Eſkedale, Annandale, Niddeſdale, Galloway, Carrick, Kyle, Cunningham, Arran, Clydeſdale, Lenox, Stirling, Fife, Strathern, Monteith, Argyle, Catire, and Lorne. 2. The northern part contains Lochabar, Broadalbain, Perth, Athol, Angus, Merns, Marr, Buchan, Murray, Roſs, Sutherland, Gaithneſs, and Strathnavern. Theſe counties are again

ſubdivided into ſheriffdoms, ſtewarties, and bailiwicks, too many to be here enumerated.

Q. Which are the chief towns in Scotland?

A. In the ſouthern part is Edinburgh, the capital of the kingdom, which has a ſtrong caſtle at the upper end of a fine ſtreet about a mile in length, the houſes whereof are built of hewn ſtone, and are reckoned the higheſt in Europe. For trade and good buildings Glaſgow comes next to Edinburgh, and is noted for its univerſity and pleaſant ſituation. To theſe may be added St. Andrews, (an univerſity) and Leith, which is properly the port to Edinburgh. In the northern part the towns of moſt note are Aberdeen, (an univerſity) Montroſs, Dundee, Perth, Inverneſs, &c.

III. *Of Ireland.*

Q. What is the ſituation and extent of Ireland?

A. It lies weſt of England, from which it is ſeparated by what we call the Iriſh Sea, or St. George's Channel. Its length is about 270 miles, and its breadth about 150.

Q. How is it divided?

A. Into four provinces, viz. Leinſter, Ulſter, Connaught, and Munſter; and theſe are ſubdivided into thirty-one counties.

Q. How many counties do each province contain?

A. 1. Leinſter contains the counties of Dublin, Louth, Wicklow, Wexford, Longford,

Meath, King's County, Queen's County, Kilkenny, Kildare, and Carlow. 2. In Ulſter are thoſe of Londonderry, Down, Armagh, Monaghan, Cavan, Antrim, Tyrone, Fermanagh, and Donnegal. 3. In Connaught are thoſe of Galloway, Letrim, Roſcommon, Mayo, and Sligo. 4. Munſter contains thoſe of Limerick, Tipperary, Waterford, Clare, Cork, and Kerry.

Q. Which are the places of moſt note in Ireland?

A. In Leinſter is Dublin, the capital of the kingdom, a large trading city and ſeaport. Its other towns of note are Drogheda, Wexford, Kildare, Kilkenny, Carlow, &c.—In Ulſter are Londonderry, Armagh, and ſeveral other conſiderable places.—In Connaught are Galloway, Athlone, Tuam, &c.—In Munſter is Limerick, a ſtrong and trading city on the river Shannon; alſo Cork, Kinſale, Waterford, and ſeveral other good ports and places of trade.

IV. *Of the Leſſer Britiſh Iſlands.*

Q. Which are the chief iſles on the coaſt of Great-Britain?

A. The chief iſles about England and Wales (beſides Angleſey, already mentioned) are 1. Man, which lies in the Iriſh ſea, and has long been an hereditary royalty or principality, belonging to the earls of Derby and Athol, but is now ſubject to the king of Great-Britain. 2.

Wight, which lies off the coaſt of Hampſhire, whereof it is reckoned a part. 3. Jerſey and Guernſey, which lie off the coaſt of Normandy, but belong to the crown of England.

On the north of Scotland, are a great many iſlands, ſome called the Orkneys, and others the Iſles of Shetland, about 26 whereof are inhabited, the largeſt whereof is Mainland. On the weſtern coaſt are a ſtill greater number, uſually reckoned about 300, called the Hebrides, or Weſtern Iſlands, the chief whereof are Lewis, Wyſt, Skie, Mul, Jura, and Ila.

On the weſt and ſouth-weſt of Ireland there are ſeveral ſmall Iſlands, but none of them worth mentioning here.

Q. What account do you give of the air, ſoil, &c. of Great-Britain and Ireland?

Air.] The air of England is generally good and temperate, neither ſubject to exceſſive cold nor heat; but the weather is almoſt continually changing, and we ſeldom enjoy a bright ſerene ſky for months together, as they do in ſeveral parts of the Continent. In Scotland the air is colder, but very pure and wholeſome. The air of Ireland is much like that of England, but rather groſſer, on account of the vapours ariſing from its lakes and marſhes.

Soil.] The ſoil of England is ſo fertile, and produces ſuch plenty of corn, that it is frequently called the Granary of the Weſtern World. Some parts of England, eſpecially the

the Northern, are encumbered with high mountains, and ſo is Wales; but the face of the country in general is a beautiful variety of gentle hills, vales, woods, and plains. It is well watered with rivers, the chief whereof are the Thames, the Severn, the Humber, and the Medway.——The ſouthern part of Scotland is indifferently fruitful, but the northern is mountainous and barren. Its principal rivers are the Tay and the Spey. The ſoil of Ireland is fertile, and fit either for paſturage or tillage, eſpecially the former; but it is full of lakes, woods, and uſeleſs bogs. The chief rivers are the Shannon, the Barrow, the Sure, and the Boyne.

COMMODITIES.] The chief commodities of England are corn, wool, cloth, ſtuffs, tin, copper, lead, iron, timber, coals, cattle, hides, tallow, butter, cheeſe, beer, &c.—of Scotland, fiſh, hemp, flax, linen, coarſe cloth, timber, coals, tin, lead, and other metals.—Of Ireland, hides, tallow, beef, butter, cheeſe, honey, wax, ſalt, linen, pipe-ſtaves, &c.

RARITIES.] In England are to be ſeen the remains of ſeveral Roman military ways; and alſo of the famous wall running through Cumberland and Northumberland, built in the time of the emperors Adrian and Severus, to prevent the incurſions of the Scots and Picts. Of the wonders of nature in this kingdom, the vaſt caves or holes of the Peake in Derbyſhire are ſome of the greateſt.—In

Scotland is a lake that never freezes, another that has fiſh without fins, and ſeveral other natural rarities, beſides many curious remains of antiquity.—In the county of Antrim in Ireland is a wonderful cauſeway, ſuppoſed to be the work of nature, which runs from the bottom of a hill into the ſea, but how far it is not known. It ſeems to conſiſt of many thouſand pillars of different ſhapes and ſizes, a draught of which may be ſeen in the philoſophical tranſactions. No venomous creatures (it is ſaid) will live in Ireland, which may be reckoned one of its curioſities.

CHARACTER.] The Engliſh in general are brave, being both good ſoldiers and ſeamen. They are great lovers of liberty and learning, generous, ſincere, hoſpitable, induſtrious, of a ſolid judgment, of a ready genius for mechanical arts, and improvers of whatever they undertake.—The Welch are a hardy and valiant people, being the remains of the ancient Britons, whom the Romans could not conquer. They value themſelves extravagantly upon their pedigrees, and are univerſally inclined to a cholerick temper.—The Scots are temperate and frugal, good ſoldiers, zealous for their religion and liberty, and their gentlemen as well-bred and learned as any in Europe.—The Iriſh are generally well educated, courageous, and civil to ſtrangers: but they are haughty, impatient of affront, and revengeful.—The Iriſh

language is peculiar to themſelves, but ſeems to be derived from the ancient Britiſh, which the Welch have preſerved pure to this day. In the north and north-weſt parts of Scotland they ſpeak a dialect of the Iriſh; in the other parts a corrupted Engliſh. As to the Engliſh tongue, it is a mixture of Saxon, Norman-French, Daniſh, German, Latin, and ſeveral other languages.

GOVERNMENT.] England is an hereditary monarchy, and the king is ſupreme in all cauſes, both eccleſiaſtical and civil; but he cannot enact laws without the concurrence of the lords and commons aſſembled in parliament. In 1707 the kingdoms of England and Scotland were united into one kingdom under the name of Great-Britain; at which union it was agreed, that ſixteen peers of Scotland (to be elected by the peers of that kingdom) ſhould ſit and vote in the Britiſh houſe of lords, and forty-five repreſentatives in the houſe of commons. By this addition of 45, the whole number of members which now compoſe the houſe of commons of Great-Britain is 558. Ever ſince the time of Henry the ſecond, Ireland has been under the crown of England, and is governed by a viceroy, commonly called Lord Lieutenant, or Lord Deputy of Ireland. This country has its own parliament, without whoſe concurrence no law can be enacted.

RELIGION.] The Engliſh are for the moſt part proteſtants, of ſeveral denominations; but thoſe of the eſtabliſhed church are moſt numerous. The chief ſects of diſſenters from the church of England are the Preſbyterians, Independents, Baptiſts, and Quakers. The Papiſts are not tolerated.—The Preſbyterian is the eſtabliſhed religion in Scotland, but the toleration is the ſame as in England.—Though the reformed religion, according to the church of England, has been eſtabliſhed, and now generally prevails in thoſe parts of Ireland where the Engliſh have ſettled, yet great numbers of natives are ſtill Papiſts.

SECT. XII.

Of the other European Iſlands.

Q. WHAT other European iſlands are moſt remarkable?

A. 1 The Scandinavian iſlands, or thoſe belonging to Sweden, Denmark, and Norway, the chief of which have been already mentioned. To theſe add the Ferro iſlands, (about twelve in number), and Iceland, a large iſland in the north ſea, ſubject to the crown of Denmark, and governed by a Daniſh Viceroy. The country is very barren and mountainous. Its chief towns are Skalholt and Hola.

2. The Azores, which lie in the Atlantic Ocean, between the coaſt of Spain and America. They are nine in number, namely, Tercera, Gratioſa, Pico, Fayal, Flores, Corvo, St. George, St. Michael, and St. Mary. They belong to the Portugueze.

3. The Mediterranean iſlands, viz. Yvica, and Majorca belonging to Spain, and Minorca, which now is poſſeſſed by the Spaniards. Sardinia is a large iſland, ſubject to the duke of Savoy, who is king of Sardinia; its capital is Cagliari. Corſica, the chief town whereof is Baſtia, belongs to the French. The Iſland of Sicily, ſubject to the king of Naples, is very fertile and its air wholeſome. Its chief cities are Palermo and Meſſina. Candia is a large iſland with a capital of the ſame name, belonging to the Turks, who are alſo poſſeſſed of moſt of the iſlands in the Archipelago, which are too numerous to be ſpecified and deſcribed in this little treatiſe, Cephalonia, Corſu, and Zont, (which laſt is famous for its currants) are ſome of the moſt noted iſlands belonging to the Venetians, the chief city of each bearing the ſame name. To theſe we may add Malta, belonging to a famous order of knights; though ſome reckon this among the African iſlands.

CHAP. II.

Of ASIA *in General.*

Q. HOW is Aſia bounded, and what is its extent?

A. It is bounded on the north by the Frozen Ocean; on the eaſt by the eaſtern ocean; on the ſouth by the Indian ſea; and on the weſt by Europe, the Mediteranean, the Red Sea, and the Iſthmus of Suez, by which it is joined to Africa. It is about 4800 miles in length, and 4300 in breadth.

Q. How is Aſia divided?

A. Into ſix general parts, viz. 1. The Turkiſh dominions. 2. The Perſian empire. 3. India. 4. Great Tartary. 5. China. 6. The Aſiatic Iſlands.—Of which in order.

SECT. I.

Of TURKY *in Aſia.*

Q. HOW are the Turkiſh Dominions in Aſia bounded, and how large are they?

A. They are bounded on the north by Tartary, and the Black Sea, on the ſouth by the Arabian ſea, on the eaſt by Perſia and the Perſian Gulf, and on the weſt by the Red Sea, and the Mediterranean. Their greateſt length is about 2100 miles, and their breadth 1700.

Q. How are they divided?

A. Into ſix great parts, viz. Natolia, Turcomania, Georgia, Syria, Diarbec, and Arabia: and theſe into other ſubdiviſions.

Q. What are the chief towns in theſe countries?

A. 1. The capital of Natolia (which comprehends Amaſia, Caramania, and Aladulia) is Dutaych, where the Turkiſh governor reſides. Its other chief cities are Burſa, (the ſeat of the Turkiſh emperors before the taking of Conſtantinople) Amaſia, Cogni, Maraſh, and Siwas. In this country were the ſeven churches of Aſia mentioned in ſcripture, viz. Pergamus, Laodicea, Philadelphia, Thyatira, Sardis, Smyrna, and Epheſus; but theſe places are now moſtly in ruins, except Smyrna, which is a populous flouriſhing city, with an excellent harbour and famous for the great trade carried on there by the Europeans, eſpecially the Engliſh. 2. The Capital of Turcomania (which includes Curdiſtan) is Erzerom, a large trading city, being a great thoroughfare between Turkey and Perſia. In this province is Mount Ara-

rat on which Noah's Ark reſted after the flood. 3. Georgia (comprehending Imireeti, Guriel, Mingrelia, &c.) has few cities of note except Teflis its capital. 4. The chief towns of syria including Phœnicia and the Holy Land) are Aleppo, a city of great trade, whoſe port is Scandaroon or Alexandretta. Damaſcus, a beautiful and populous city; and Jeruſalem, anciently the Jewiſh metropolis, and one of the moſt famous cities in the world; but now inconſiderable, except for the reſort of Chriſtian pilgrims. The moſt noted ſeaports on this coaſt are Tripoli, Sidon, Joppa, and Gaza. 5. In the province of Diarbec there is a large city of the ſame name, but Moſul is reckoned the capital, near which are the ruins of Nineveh. In the diſtrict of Irak or Yerack Arabi is Bagdad, a large, ſtrong, and populous city on the eaſt ſide of Tirgis; and Baſſora near the Perſian gulf, a place of great trade. 6. Arabia is divided into three parts, the Stony, the Deſert, and the Happy. In the Stony Arabia, in Mecca, famous for being the birth-place of Mahomet, and for the temple to which vaſt numbers of Mahometans repair every year in pilgrimage; alſo Medina, remarkable for Mahomet's tomb, on which account it is much reſorted to by his diſciples. The Deſert Arabia has few towns of note except Ana its capital, a large city on the Euphrates. In the Happy Arabia are Sanaa,

the largeſt city in the country; Zihit, Mocha, and Aden, all trading ſea-ports near the mouth of the Arabic gulf; Muſcat on the gulf of Ormus and Elcatif on the Perſian gulph, both cities of great trade.

Q. What ſort of air, ſoil, &c. do theſe countries enjoy?

AIR and SOIL.] In general they enjoy a pure and healthful air, and a fruitful ſoil; but many parts lie uncultivated, eſpecially in the Holy Land, and others are over-run with barren mountains, rocks, and ſandy deſerts. This is the caſe of Arabia, except ſome parts of that which we call the Happy; and the air of this country in ſummer is very hot and unwholeſome.—The moſt noted rivers of Aſiatic Turkey are the Euphrates and the Tigris.

COMMODITIES.] The Turkiſh commodities are raw ſilks, goats-hair, cottons, wool, cordovans of ſeveral colours, tapeſtries, carpets, oil, wine, figs, raiſins, rhubarb, &c. Arabia produces abundance of coffee; alſo myrrh, frankincenſe, manna, gums, caſſia, and ſeveral other valuable drugs and ſpices. Add to theſe the pearl-fiſhery near Elcatiff, in the Perſian gulph.

RARITIES.] The ruins of famous cities and buildings to be ſeen throughout theſe countries are almoſt innumerable; of which thoſe of Palmyra in Syria, and of the temple of Diana at Epheſus, are very remarkable.

At Balbeck in Syria there is an ancient temple almoſt entire, a very beantiful ſtructure. Add to theſe the venerable remains of antiquity that are to be ſeen in and about Jeruſalem, and in other parts of the Holy Land, too many to be here enumerated.

CHARACTER.] We have already given the character of the Turks. As to the Arabians, ſome of them rove about in parties, and live by robbing and plundering; others are of a civil and honeſt deportment. Phyſic and aſtronomy are the favourite ſtudies of the better ſort. Their language is the Arabeſque, or corrupt Arabian, which (with ſome variation) is ſpoken over a great part of the eaſtern countries.

GOVERNMENT.] The grand ſignior is abſolute ſovereign of the Turkiſh empire, who appoints Baſhaws or Beglerbegs to govern the ſeveral provinces. In Arabia there are many kings or princes, ſome tributary to the Turks, and others independent.

RELIGION.] The religion of Mahomet is eſtabliſhed throughout the Turkiſh dominions and Arabia; but there are great numbers of Greeks, Armenians, Maronites. and other chriſtians, (as well as Jews) in many part of parts of the empire.

SECT. II.

Of PERSIA.

Q. HOW is Perſia bounded, and what is its extent?

A. It has India on the eaſt, Aſiatic Turkey on the weſt, the Caſpian Sea and part of Tartary on the north, and the ocean and Perſian Gulf on the ſouth. It is about 1300 miles in length, and 1000 in breadth.

Q. How is it divided?

A. Into twelve provinces, viz. Shirwan, Adirbeitzan, Ghilan, Choraſan, Sableſtan, Candahar, Irak Agemi, Chuſiſtan, Fars, Kirman, Makran, and Segeſtan. But geographers differ very much in their diviſion of this empire.

Q. Which are the chief cities of theſe provinces?

A. 1. Thoſe of Shirwan are Schamaki and Derbent, both large cities, and the latter, which is a place of great ſtrength, is now in the hands of the Ruſſians. 2. In Adirbeitzan are Tauris, once the chief city of Perſia, and ſtill reckoned the ſecond; the Erivan, a large, ſtrong, and trading city.

3. Raſht is the capital of Ghilan; in which province we include Maſanderan or Tabriſtan, the chief city whereof is Ferabat. The capital of Choraſan is Herat; and Aſtrabat is a fine city with a good port on the Caſpian ſea. 5. Sableſtan has few cities of note, except Boſt, its capital. 6. The capital of Candahar bears the ſame name, and is a fortified and trading city. 7. In Irak Agemi is Iſpahan, a large populous city, the capital of all Perſia, and a place of great trade: alſo Hamadan, Caſbin, and ſeveral other conſiderable cities. 8. The capital of Chuſiſtan is Sus or Souſter. 9. That of Fars or Pars is Schiras, a large city; and on the coaſt there are ſeveral good ports. 10. The capital of Kirman is of the ſame name, noted for fine wool, and its manufactory of cloth of gold. On the coaſt is Bender-Abaſſi, or Gombroon, much frequented by merchants. 11. Makran has few cities of note, except Tiz, or Guadel on the coaſt, which has a good harbour. 12. Segeſtan has a capital of the ſame name, but few other conſiderable cities, being full of deſerts.

Q. Of what nature is the air, &c. of Perſia?

AIR and SOIL.] The north and eaſt parts of Perſia are mountainous and cold; the provinces to the ſouth-eaſt are ſandy and deſert; thoſe on the ſouth and weſt are very fertile, but the air in the ſouth is extremely hot

in ſummer, and very unwholeſome. There is ſcarce any country that has more mountains and fewer rivers.

COMMODITIES.] Theſe are raw and wrought ſilks, carpets, tiſſues, and other manufactures of gold and ſilver, leather, camel's-hair, goat's-wool, ſeal-ſkin, alabaſter, metals, precious ſtones, fruits, and various drugs.

RARITIES.] In the province of Fars are to be ſeen the ruins of the once magnificent city of Perſepolis, deſtroyed by Alexander the Great; amongſt which are ſeveral pillars yet ſtanding, of excellent marble and workmanſhip, ſuppoſed to have been part of the royal palace.—About thirty miles from Gombroon is a moſt hideous cave, called Hell-gate, from its frightful appearance.

CHARACTER.] The Perſians are a brave polite, and ingenious people, honeſt in their dealings, and civil to ſtrangers, Their language is much intermixed with Arabic, and in its conſtruction, is ſaid to have a great affinity with the Engliſh.

GOVERNMENT.] Perſia is governed by an abſolute monarch, called Shah or king, and frequently Sophi. The crown is hereditary, but females are excluded.

RELIGION.] The Perſians in general are Mahometans, but differ conſiderably from the Turks. There are many Chriſ-

tians and Jews in Perſia; and a ſect who worſhip fire, the followers of Zoroaſter.

SECT. III.

Of INDIA, *or the* EAST-INDIES.

Q. HOW is India bounded, and what is its extent?

A. It is bounded on the eaſt by China, on the weſt by Perſia, on the north by Great Tartary, and on the ſouth by the Indian Sea. It is about 2300 miles long, and 2000 broad.

Q. How is it divided?

A. Into three great parts, viz. Indoſtan, or the empire of the Great Mogul, India on this ſide the Ganges, and India beyond the Ganges.

Q. Which are the moſt remarkable towns in theſe countries?

A. The Mogul's empire is divided into thirty five provinces or kingdoms, the moſt noted whereof are Delli and Agra within land,

and Guzurat and Bengal on the coaſt. The cities of Delli and Agra, which give name to the two firſt provinces, are the chief of the whole empire, though Delli is now generally reckoned the capital. They are both large, rich, and populous cities; and in each of them the emperor had a very ſplendid palace.—The capital of Guzurat is Amadabat, a ſtrong and trading city; and ſo is Cambaia. But the moſt noted city on this coaſt is Surat, a place of very great trade, where the Engliſh have a factory.—In Bengal is Daka, a large city, the reſidence of the viceroy; and Chatigan, or Bengal, a great trading city near the mouth of the eaſtern branch of the Ganges; with many other conſiderable places.

India on this ſide the Ganges comprehends abundance of petty kingdoms, and ſome large ones. The chief are, 1. Viſapour, with a capital of the ſame name. On the Coaſt are Goa, belonging to the Portugueſe, which is their ſtaple for Eaſt-India goods; and Bombay, a little iſland and town belonging to the Engliſh. 2. Malabar, (the chief city Calicut) on which coaſt the Engliſh, Dutch, and Portugueſe have ſeveral ſettlements. 3. Madura, with a capital of the ſame name. 4. Biſnaga, having the capital of the ſame name, is a large and ſtrong city.

On this coaſt (including Gingi) are Tranquebar belonging to the Danes, Negapatan to the Dutch, Pondicherri to the French, Fort St. David's and Fort St. George to the Engliſh, and ſeveral other European ſettlements. 5. Golconda, the capital whereof is of the ſame name, and is a large, rich, and populous city. In this kingdom the Engliſh, French, and Dutch, have factories.

India beyond the Ganges is alſo divided into various kingdoms, the chief of which are Azem, Tipra, Ava, Pegu, Aracan, Siam, Malacca, Laos, Camboja or Cambodia, Chiampa, Cochin China, and Tonquin. In theſe kingdoms are a great number of large populous cities, of which we know little beſides their names. Ava and Pegu, and Aracan, are cities of conſiderable trade; and ſo is Martaban, a good port on the Bay of Bengal. Siam, or Odia, is a vaſt city, and much frequented by merchants; its Port is Bankok. Malacca, on the peninſula of that name, is a ſtrong town belonging to the Dutch; and on the ſame coaſt are Pera, Queda, Ihor, and other good ſeaports. Patana is a noted mart town on the eaſt ſide of the peninſula. Camboja is much frequented by the Portugueſe and other nations. Leng is reckoned the capital of Laos, and Fayfo of Cochin China. Tonquin is full of cities and good ports, the capital whereof is Kecho, on a large river, about a hundred

miles from the ſea, where the Engliſh and Dutch have factories.

Q. What ſort of air, ſoil, &c. have theſe countries?

AIR and SOIL.] In the northern parts of India the air is temperate, but very hot in the ſouthern. The heats, however, are moderated by refreſhing breezes from the ſea, and the rains that fall continually from the end of June to the end of October. Some parts of India, eſpecially the northern provinces of the Mogul's empire, are ſandy mountainous, and barren; but in general the ſoil is very fertile, producing plenty of corn, and the fineſt fruits. It is well watered with rivers, the chief whereof are the Ganges and the Indus.

COMMODITIES.] Theſe are ſilks, cottons, callicoes, muſlins, ſattins, taffaties, carpets, gold, ſilver, diamonds, pearls, porcelain, rice, ginger, rhubarb, aloes, amber, pepper, cinnamon, cocoa, dates, muſk, and great variety of phyſical drugs.

RARITIES.] In the Mogul's dominions, are divers volcanos, which frequently throw out fire and ſulphureous matter. This monarch's palaces may be reckoned among the rarities of the country, and particularly one of his thrones, which is ſaid to have coſt five millions ſterling.

CHARACTER.] In general the Indians are ingenious in arts, civil to ſtrangers, and pret-

ty juſt in their dealings. Some are of a ſwarthy complexion, others as black as jet. Their languages are very numerous and different, of which we know but little. The Arabic, Tartarian, and Perſian, (beſides the Indian), are ſpoken in the Mogul's empire; but the Perſian is the language of the court. That of Malacca, called the Malayan, is much uſed all over the Indies.

GOVERNMENT.] The great Mogul was an abſolute monarch, but great part of his territories were conquered by Kouli Khan of Perſia in 1739: on whoſe aſſaſſination it was made an independent kingdom, of which the Indus is the boundary. At preſent the imperial dignity is veſted in Shah Zadar, but the city of Delhi, and a ſmall territory round it, is all that is left him; and that depends on the protection of the Engliſh who now poſſeſs the whole of Bengal, and great part of Bahar: containing about 150000 ſquare miles, and 10 millions of people. The other kings of India are abſolute: among the moſt powerful of whom was TIPPO SAIB, who governed great part of the Carnatic; but by the ſucceſſes of the Engliſh in 1792 his dominions were confined within much narrower limits.

RELIGION.] The Moors or Moguls (who are a mixture of Tartars, Perſians, Arabs, &c.) are Mahometans; but the original natives of India, who are far the moſt numerous, are chiefly Pagans, worſhipping idols of various ſhapes. Many Chriſtians are ſettled on the Coaſts.

SECT. IV.

Of Great TARTARY.

Q. HOW is Great Tartary bounded, and what is its extent?

A. It is bounded on the north by the Frozen Ocean; on the eaſt by the eaſtern or Tartarian Sea: on the ſouth by China, India, and Perſia; and on the weſt by Muſcovy and the Caſpian Sea. It is about 3600 miles in length, and 2000 in breadth; but as the limits of this vaſt country are uncertain, ſo are its dimenſions.

Q. How is it divided, and which are the chief cities?

A. It may be divided into three great parts, viz. The Muſcovites, Chineſe, and Independent Tartary.—Muſcovite Tartary comprehends the Aſiatic Siberia, Tunguſia, and other provinces. Its chief cities are Tobolſkoi, Jenizeſkoi, Marim, &c.—Chineſe Tartary comprehends Niuche, Niulba, Coria, &c. and the deſart of Xmo. The capital of the whole is Ghynian.—Independent Tartary contains the kingdoms of Thibet, Tangut, &c. and Mawaralnahra, (common-

ly called Uſbeck or Zagathay) lately conquered by the Perſians, the chief cities whereof are Samercand, Balk, and Bochara —We take no notice of the various ſubdiviſions of Great Tartary, and many cities that are mentioned by geographers; for in truth we have but an imperfect knowledge of this country, eſpecially of the middle, the north, and the eaſtern parts.

Q. Of what kind is the air, ſoil, &c. of Great Tartary?

Air and Soil.] The northern parts are exceſſively cold and barren, but the ſouthern more temperate and fertile. The country abounds with unwholeſome lakes and marſhes, mountains, and ſandy deſerts; and has ſeveral large rivers, the chief whereof are the Obey, Jeniſoy, Lana, and Amur.

Commodities.] Theſe are chiefly ſkins, of foxes, ſables, ermines, lynxes, and other furs; alſo flax, muſk, rhubarb, and cinnamon.

Rarities.] We know of none except ſome volcanos in the north and eaſtern parts.

Character.] Some of the Tartars are honeſt and hoſpitable; others are barbarous, and live by plundering their neighbours. The Uſbeck Tartars, and thoſe of Thibet, are reckoned the beſt ſoldiers. The inhabitants of Corea are an innocent people, taking much delight in muſick and dancing. Moſt of the Tartars eat horſe fleſh, which they

prefer to the fineſt veniſon. The language on the weſtern part of Tartary has a greater affinity with the Turkiſh, but that of the eaſtern part is very different.

GOVERNMENT.] Muſcovite Tartary is ſubject to the empreſs of Ruſſia; the Chineſe Tartary to the emperor of China, to whom the king of Corea is tributary. Other parts of Tartary have their own chams or princes, and ſome are ſubject to Perſia, and the Great Mogul.

RELIGION.] The inhabitants of Tartary are chiefly Pagans, Mahometans, or Chriſtians; but the firſt are moſt numerous.

SECT. V.

Of CHINA.

Q. HOW is China bounded, and what is its extent?

A. It has Thibet and India on the weſt, Tartary on the north, and the Chineſe Sea or Eaſtern Ocean on the ſouth and eaſt. It is about 1400 miles long, and 1100 broad.

Q. How is it divided, and which are the chief cities?

A. It is divided into fifteen provinces, viz. 1. Pecheli, wherein is PEKING the capital of the whole empire, and ſeat of the emperor, ſuppoſed to contain three millions of people. Xanſi, whoſe capital is Taywen, a populous city. 3. Xenſi, the capital whereof is Sigan or Singan. 4. Honan, the chief city of which is Kayfung. 5. Xantong, of which the capital Tſinan is large and populous. 6. Nankin, or Kiangnan, the chief city (bearing the ſame name) was once the capital of the empire. 7. Chekiang, the capital whereof is Hangchew, a rich and populous city. 8. Fokion, whereof the capital is Fuchew, a place of great trade. 9. Quangton, of which the capital Quangchew (by us called Canton) is one of the largeſt and wealthieſt cities in China, having a vaſt trade with the neighbouring countries and ſeveral nations of Europe. 10. Kyangſi, the capital whereof is Nanchang, a place of great trade for China ware. 11. Quangſi, whereof the chief city is Queylin. 12. Queychew, whereof the capital is Queyang, a city of no great note. 13. Huquang, the capital of which is Vuchang, very large and populous, noted for the beſt tea. 14. Suchuen, the capital of which is Chingtu. 15. Yunnan, which has a capital of the ſame name.—To theſe provinces ſome add Leotung, or Lyantong, which by others is reckoned a

part of the Chineſe Tartary.—Beſides the capitals already mentioned China is full of large and trading cities; nor is any country in the world more populous, the inhabitants being uſually computed about ſeventy millions.

Q. What ſort of air, ſoil, &c. does China enjoy?

AIR and SOIL.] The air of China is generally temperate and good, though ſometimes very hot in the ſouthern provinces, and very cold in the northern. As to the ſoil, it is one of the moſt fruitful countries in the world, the mountains themſelves being cultivated to the top. It is full of large navigable rivers, the chief whereof are the Whangho or Yellow river, and the Kiang.

COMMODITIES.] The principal commodities of this country are ſilks, cottons, precious ſtones, porcelain, or China ware, quickſilver, tea, rhubarb, muſk, ginger, camphire, canes, japanned or varniſhed works; alſo gold, ſilver, copper, and other metals.

RARITIES.] One of the greateſt curioſities of China is that ſtupendous wall, built about 1900 years ago to prevent the incurſions of the Tartars. It is at leaſt 1700 miles in length, including all its windings; is twenty-five or thirty feet high, and broad enough for ſeveral horſemen to

travel upon it a-breaſt.—The great Canal, extending from Canton to Pekin, which is 900 miles or upwards, is alſo a ſurpriſing work, and very uſeful for carrying on trade from one province to another, being always crowded with innumerable barks, boats, and other veſſels.—The remarkable bridges, triumphal arches, and other public ſtructures in China, are too many to be here ſpecified; and ſo are its natural curioſities.

CHARACTER.] The Chineſe are ingenious, modeſt, good-natured, induſtrious, and generally honeſt in their dealings. They are lovers of arts and ſciences, but have too great an opinion of their own wiſdom, and think meanly of other nations. They have a language peculiar to themſelves, but the Manchew, brought in by the Tartars, is alſo much ſpoken in China.

GOVERNMENT.] The emperor of China is abſolute rather in name than in fact, being obliged by a maxim of ſtate to conſider his ſubjects as children, and they regard him no longer than while he behaves like a parent. The preſent emperor is deſcended from a Tartarian family; for about a hundred years ago, the Tartars over-ran and conquered this fine country. However, Tartary may now rather be ſaid to be ſubject to China, than China to Tartary; ſince all the wealth of

the united empire centers in China, and Tartary is no ſmall addition to its ſtrength.

RELIGION.] Natural Religion, as explained by their celebrated philoſopher Confuſius, is the eſtabliſhed religion of China; but the greateſt part of the people are groſs idolaters, and the moſt numerous ſect are thoſe who worſhip the idol Fo, which was brought from Tibet ſoon after the death of our Saviour. The Mahometans have been tolerated in China for ſix or ſeven hundred years, and the Jews much longer. Chriſtianity has gained conſiderable footing in this empire by the labours of the Jeſuits; but in the year 1726 theſe miſſionaries, being ſuſpected of deſigns againſt the government, and teaching doctrines deſtructive to it, were quite expelled, and the chriſtian churches demoliſhed.

SECT. VI.

Of the ASIATIC ISLANDS.

Q. WHICH are the chief iſlands of Aſia?

A. The Aſiatic iſlands are ſo numerous, that ſome make them amount to 150,000. The moſt conſiderable are, 1. The iſles of Japan or Japon, which are under ſeveral petty kings, but all together form a large empire ſubject to one abſolute ſovereign. The chief of them is Niphon, (uſually called Japan) about 700 miles in length, wherein is YENDO or YEDO, a vaſt, rich, and populous city, the capital of the empire, as Meaco was formerly. The reſt of the Japan iſlands are of little note, except Xino and Xicoco. Theſe iſlands are much overſpread with woods and mountains, but the ſoil is good, producing plenty of corn, fruit, and paſture. The air is ſomewhat cold, but very wholeſome. The inhabitants are idolaters, and at preſent will permit no chriſtian to ſet foot in the country,

or trade with them, except the Dutch, who bring from thence gold, ſilver, copper, fine cabinets, and other curious Japan and lacquered ware.

2. Formoſa, about 200 miles long, ſubject to the Chineſe. Its principal place is Taywan upon the coaſt, once poſſeſſed by the Dutch.

3. The Philippine iſlands, which are ſaid to be 1200 in number, or according to ſome a great many more. Forty or fifty of them are pretty large; but the principal are Luconia, Mindanao, Philippina, and Paragoa. In Luconia is Manilla, a well fortified and trading city, the reſidence of a Spaniſh viceroy, to which crown moſt of the Phillippines are ſubject. In general they are bleſſed with a wholſome air and a fruitful ſoil, producing abundance of rice, fruits, ſugar, cotton, ſpice, &c. and ſeveral of them are rich in gold, ſilver, and other metals.

4. The Moluccoes or Molucca iſlands, the chief whereof are Celebes, Gilolo, Ceram, Flores, Timor, and Amboyna. The air of theſe iſlands is very hot and unwholſome, and the ſoil too barren to produce much corn or paſture; but they abound with the beſt ſpices and moſt delicious fruits, and have alſo rich mines of gold. In the year 1618 the Dutch uſed the Engliſh very barbarouſly at Amboyna, ſince which time

they have been ſole maſters of it, and have got the trade of moſt of the other Spice-Iſlands into their own hands. Amboyna is famous for cloves, and the Banda iſles for nutmegs.

5. The Iſles of Sunda, which are very numerous; but the chief are Borneo, Sumatra, and Java. Borneo is a large Iſland, divided into ſeveral petty kingdoms; the Dutch having only ſome forts upon the coaſts to protect their trade. The capital of the whole is Borneo, a large city. The produce of this country are gold, ſpices, wax, honey, ſugar, cotton, quickſilver, and the fineſt diamonds. Sumatra is alſo divided into ſeveral kingdoms, but Achem or Achin is reckoned the capital, which is a large trading city and ſeaport, on the northern coaſt of the iſland. The Dutch have ſeveral ſettlements on the coaſt; and ſo have the Engliſh, particularly at Bencoolen. The principal commodities of Sumatra are gold-duſt and pepper: but it alſo produces abundance of rice, ſugarcanes, lemons, oranges, pomegranates, and other fruits. Java is likewiſe under different princes, the chief whereof is the king of Materan, who ſtiles himſelf emperor of Java; and therefore Materan is reckoned the capital of the iſland. But in reality the Dutch are the moſt powerful people in this country, where

they have built Batavia, a well fortified city, the center of their trade in the eaſt, and the reſidence of a governor, who lives with the ſtate and ſplendor of a ſovereign prince. This place is famous for its arrack, a ſpirituous liquor diſtilled from a vegetable juice called toddy, which is drawn by inciſion from the Cocoa-tree. The air of theſe iſlands is for the moſt part unwholſome, eſpecially to European conſtitutions.

6. The Maldives and Ceylon. The Maldives are a long tract of ſmall iſlands, ſaid to be 12,000 in number, all under one king, who is a Mahometan, and reſides at Male or Maldivia, which is one of the largeſt. They ſcarce produce any corn, but abundance of cocoa-nuts and other fruits. Ceylon is a very fertile and pleaſant iſland, in the middle of which is Candea, the capital of a kingdom of the ſame name; but the Dutch are maſters of moſt of the ſea-coaſt, on which they have many towns, the chief whereof is Colombo. Here grows plenty of the fineſt cinnamon, with which the Dutch ſupply all the reſt of the World.

7. The Aſiatic Iſlands in the Mediterranean are Cyprus and Rhodes, both famous in hiſtory; and ſeveral ſmall ones in the Archipelago, among which is Scio, noted for its maſtich, and the little iſle of Patmos, where St. John wrote his Revelations. They are all under the dominion of the Turks.

CHAP. III.

Of AFRICA *in general.*

Q. HOW is Africa bounded, and what is its extent?

A. It is bounded on the Eaſt by the Indian Ocean, the Red Sea, and the Iſthmus of Suez, which joins it to Aſia; on the weſt by the weſtern or Atlantic ocean; on the ſouth by the ſouthern ocean; and on the north by the Mediterranean. It is about 4300 miles long, and 4150 broad.

Q. How is it divided?

A. Geographers differ very much about this matter; but we ſhall divide it into ſeven general parts, viz. 1. Barbary. 2. Egypt. 3. Zaara, or the deſert. 4. Negroland. 5. Guinea. 6. Ethiopia. 7. The African Iſlands.—Of theſe in their order.

SECT. I.

Of BARBARY.

Q. WHAT are the boundaries and extent of Barbary?

A. Barbary (including Bildulgerid) is bounded on the ſouth by Zaara, on the north by the Mediterranean, on the Eaſt by Egypt, and on the weſt by the weſtern ocean. It is about 2000 miles long, and 700 broad in ſome places, but much narrower in others.

Q. How is it divided?

A. Into four great countries or ſtates, namely, thoſe of Morocco, Algiers, Tunis, and Tripoli; and to one or other of theſe powers all the petty kings of Bildulgerid are tributary.

Q. Which are the principal cities in theſe countries?

A. 1. MOROCCO was formerly the capital of the empire of that name, and is ſtill a conſiderable city; but FEZ is now reckoned the metropolis, being the uſual reſidence of the emperors, and the richeſt city

in all Barbary; though Mequinez is ſometimes the royal ſeat. The other cities of note within land are Taradant and Tafilet; and the remarkable towns on the coaſt are Azamoor, Sallee (famous for its rovers and pirates) Tangier, Ceuta, and Tetuant. The Engliſh were formerly maſters of Tangier, but demoliſhed and left it in 1685; and Ceuta is now in the hands of the Spaniards, though continually blockaded by the Moors. 2. Algier or Algiers, (the capital of a large republick or kingdom) is very ſtrong, the walls being twelve feet thick, and forty feet high towards the ſea. It is a rich and populous city, but (like moſt of the towns of Barbary) its wealth is acquired chiefly by its piracies. Oran is alſo a very ſtrong ſeaport in the territory of Algiers, taken by the Spaniards in the year 1732, and is ſtill in their poſſeſſion. Here are likewiſe Conſtantina, Tremezen, and ſeveral other conſiderable cities. 3. Tunis, the capital of that kingdom, ſtands about ten miles from the ſea, is well fortified, and has a ſtrong citadel. On this coaſt ſtood the famous city of Carthage, which was deſtroyed by the Romans. The inland towns are of no great note at preſent, though Cairoan was formerly a ſplendid city. Bildulgerid Proper, or the country of Dates, belongs to Tunis. 4. Tripoli, the capital of the kingdom, is a ſtrong

city with a good harbour; and there are ſeveral other good ports upon the coaſt. Barca is now reckoned as a part of Tripoli.

Q. Of what ſort is the Air, Soil, &c. of Barbary.

AIR and SOIL.] The air is pretty temperate, and generally healthful; and the ſoil is rich, producing plenty of corn, fruits, and paſture, but ſome parts are ſandy and barren, and others over-run with woods and mountains.

COMMODITIES.] The chief of theſe are corn, oil, wool, hides, Morocco leather, honey, wax, ſoap, flax, hemp, ſugar, dates, almonds, and other fruits.

RARITIES.] The remains of an old Roman caſtle, with ſeveral Latin inſcriptions on the ſtones, are ſtill to be ſeen on a mountain near Tunis.—Not far from Tangier is a narrow deſcent, which leads into ſubterraneous apartments, ſuppoſed to have been anciently repoſitories for the dead, there being found in them many urns and ſtatues, with ſome inſcriptions in the punic language.—The fine breed of horſes may be reckoned among the rarities of Barbary, as well as its lions, leopards, and other wild beaſts.

CHARACTER.] The Moors, who are the original inhabitants of Barbary, dwell

chiefly in Morocco, and are ſaid to be a covetous, unhoſpitable, and treacherous people. They are well ſhaped, active, ſtrong, and ingenious.—The Arabs, who are diſperſed all over the country, follow their common trade of robbing travellers.—As to the Turks, who are ſettled in Algiers, Tunis, and Tripoli, the character already given of that people may ſuffice.—The Mooriſh language, which is a dialect of the ancient Punic, is ſpoken in ſeveral places; but a corrupt Arabic prevails in moſt parts of Barbary.

GOVERNMENT.] The emperor of Morocco is an arbitrary prince. Algiers is governed by a ſovereign called the Dey, who is elected by the army. The ſovereigns of Tunis and Tripoli are called Beys, who are not ſo independent as the former. Theſe three ſtates may be looked upon as republics of ſoldiers, under the protection of the Grand Signior. As to the tributary kingdoms in Bildulgerid, they are not worth mentioning, ſince we know little of them but their names.

RELIGION.] Mahometaniſm (with ſome difference) prevails all over Barbary.

SECT. II.

Of EGYPT.

Q. HOW is Egypt bounded, and what is its extent?

A. It is bounded on the eaſt by the Red Sea and the iſthmus of Suez, on the weſt by Barca; on the north by the Mediterranean, and on the ſouth by Nubia and Abyſſinia. It is about 600 miles long, and 350 broad, including the deſerts.

Q. How is it divided?

A. Into three great parts, the upper, middle, and lower. The upper Egypt is the ſouthern part, and the lower the northern.

Q. Which are the chief towns in Egypt?

A. 1. In Upper Egypt (called Sayd by the Arabs) is Girge or Jirjeh, a large city, which may be reckoned the capital of this part of the country; alſo Aſſuan, near the cataracts, the ancient Syene; Aſſan, Dandara, Akmin, Taata, Kus, Kena, and ſeveral others: To which add

Coſſir, a good port on the Red Sea, from whence corn is tranſported to Arabia. 2. In middle Egypt, on the eaſt ſide of the Nile, is CAIRO or GRAND CAIRO, the capital of all Egypt, one of the largeſt and moſt populous cities in the world, and a place of great trade and riches. On the weſt ſide of the river is Giza, near which ſtood the ancient Memphis. More to the ſouthward is Fayume, not far from the famous lake Maris, alſo Beniſuef, Minia, Manfalut, and ſome other conſiderable towns. Suez is a ſmall but noted ſeaport at the end of the Red Sea or Arabic Gulf, which gives name to the Iſthmus, or neck of land, by which Aſia and Africa are joined together. 3. The capital of lower Egypt is Alexandria, built by Alexander the Great, once a beautiful and flouriſhing city, but now thinly inhabited: It has an excellent harbour on the Mediterranean, and the fine ruins about it are teſtimonies of its ancient ſplendor. The other places of moſt note in this part of Egypt are Roſetta and Raſchid on the weſtern branch of the Nile, and Damietta and Manſoura on the eaſtern, all populous and trading cities.

Q. Of what nature is the air, ſoil, &c. of Egyp,

AIR and SOIL.] The air of Egypt is for the moſt part very hot and unwholeſome; but the ſoil is exceeding fruitful, occaſioned

by the annual overflowing of the Nile, which leaves a fattening ſlime behind it. Thoſe parts out of the reach of this inundation are uncultivated, ſandy, and barren.

COMMODITIES.] Theſe are corn, rice, ſugar, flax, linen, ſalt, ſal-ammoniac, balſam, and various ſorts of fruits and drugs.

RARITIES.] Egypt is remarkable for its pyramids, which are ſtupendous fabrics that have ſtood ſeveral thouſand years, ſuppoſed to have been deſigned for ſepulchral monuments of their ancient kings; but when they were erected is uncertain. Three of theſe, which ſtand ſome miles weſtward of Giza, are the moſt famous. They have ſquare baſes, and diminiſh gradually to the top, which is ſquare alſo. One ſide of the baſis of the largeſt is about 700 Engliſh feet, and its perpendicular height about 500; ſo that the whole area of its baſis, or ground it ſtands upon, is upwards of eleven acres.—Some leagues from theſe pyramids, are the catacombs or pits, wherein are found thoſe embalmed bodies, which we call mummies.—In ſeveral parts of Egypt are to be ſeen the ruins of the moſt ſplendid cities and buildings in the world; particularly of Thebes, Alexandria, and the famous labyrinth near the lake of Mœris.—The Nile is one of the greateſt wonders of this country, which every year overflows and enriches the ſoil. This ſupplies the want of rain, which ſeldom

falls except in lower Egypt. In this river are abundance of crocodiles, a ſubtle and voracious animal.—The hatching of chickens in ovens is a remarkable but conſtant practice in Egypt.

CHARACTER.] The Egyptians are generally reckoned cunning, treacherous, cowardly, and cruel, being much degenerated from their anceſtors. The languages ſpoken in Egypt are the Arabic and Turkiſh, the Coptic or ancient Egyptian being almoſt extinct.

GOVERNMENT.] Egypt is governed by a baſhaw ſent from Conſtantinople, being a province of the Turkiſh empire.

RELIGION.] The Turks and Arabs are Mahometans, which is the eſtabliſhed religion of Egypt; but there are many Chriſtians, called Copts, or Copti; and the Jews are very numerous.

SECT. III.

Of ZAARA, *or the Deſert.*

Q. HOW is Zaara bounded, and what is its extent?

A. It has Bildulgerid or Barbary on the north, Negroland and Guinea on the ſouth, Egypt and Nubia on the eaſt, and on the weſt the Atlantic ocean. It is about 2500 miles long, and 600 broad.

Q. How is it divided?

A. Into ſix general parts, which take their names from the principal nations or tribes that inhabit them, viz. Zanhaga, Zuenziga, Targa, Lempta, Berdoa, and Levata; but ſome make the diviſions more numerous.

Q. Which are the chief towns in Zaara?

A. There are ſcarce any towns of note: The chief are Guaden or Whoden, and Caragoli on the river St. Anthony, both in Zanhaga; Tagazel in Zuenziga; Aſſudi in Targa; and Jibadu in Lempta. In Berdoa and Levata there are none worth mentioning that we know of.

Q. What account do you give of the air, ſoil, &c. of Zaara?

Air and Soil.] The air is very hot, but wholeſome to the natives, the ſoil is generally barren and ſandy; inſomuch that the caravans croſſing this country to and from Negroland are often reduced to great extremities. Targa is the moſt fruitful part of Zaara, having plenty of ſprings, and ſome indifferent paſture.

Commodities.] Theſe are very inconſiderable, conſiſting chiefly in a few cattle and dates.

Rarities.] Of theſe I find none worth mentioning.

Character.] The inhabitants of this country are for the moſt part a wild and ignorant people, and thoſe of Lompta eſpecially are fierce and cruel, robbing all they meet. Their languages are Arabic, and different dialects of the old African.

Government.] The princes or chiefs of the ſeveral nations or tribes are generally abſolute; but in many places there are few ſigns of any government all all.

Religion.] The Mahometan is profeſſed throughout the country.

SECT. IV.

Of NEGROLAND, *or the Country of the* BLACKS.

Q. WHAT are the boundaries and extent of Negroland?

A. It is bounded on the north by Zaara, on the ſouth by Guinea, on the eaſt by Nubia, and on the weſt by the Atlantic ocean. Its length is about 2300 miles, and its breadth about 700.

Q. How is it divided?

A. Into a great many kingdoms, the chief whereof are, Genchoa, Tombut, Agades, Cano, Caſſena, and Guangara, on the north ſide of the river Niger; and Mundinga, Melli, Gago, Guber, Zegzeg, and Zanfara, on the ſouth ſide. In Mundinga we include the ſeveral kingdoms between the rivers Senegal and Gambia.

Q. Which are the principal towns in Negroland?

A. Moſt of the above-mentioned kingdoms have capitals of the ſame name, but the

chief is Tombut, which is large and populous, that kingdom being the moſt powerful and civilized in all Negroland. Guber contains about ſix thouſand houſes. Agades, Cano, and Guangara are walled cities. There are ſeveral other large towns, but we have only an imperfect knowledge of the inland parts of the country, and therefore cannot deſcend to particulars. The kingdom of Mandinga, and the countries on the ſea-coaſt and rivers, are full of towns and villages. The Engliſh have ſettlements along the Gambia, defended by Fort St. James at the mouth of the river: they have alſo ſettlements on the Senegal, which they took from the French in the late war.

Q. Of what kind is the air, ſoil, &c. of Negroland?

Air and Soil.] The air is very hot, but generally wholeſome; and the ſoil for the moſt part fertile, eſpecially near the Niger, which runs through the country from eaſt to weſt, and overflows at a certain time of the year, like the Nile in Egypt.

Commodities.] Theſe are chiefly gold, ſlaves, elephants-teeth, bees-wax, and ſome drugs.

Rarities.] There is ſaid to be a ſandy deſert in this country, of ſuch a quality as to preſerve human bodies that are laid in it from corrupting.—Alſo a well whoſe water is as ſweet as ordinary ſugar.

CHARACTER.] The negroes are moſtly an uncivilized and ignorant people; but are ſaid to be very crafty in their dealings with the Europeans. They are generally of a good ſtature and robuſt conſtitutions; their complexions of the deepeſt black, their hair ſhort and curled like wool, their noſes flat, their lips thick, and their teeth white and even. The languages of this vaſt country are various, and little known to us.

GOVERNMENT.] There are ten or twelve conſiderable kings in Negroland, who are abſolute, and to whom many petty ones are tributary. The king of Tombut (as before obſerved) is reckoned the moſt powerful, having extended his conqueſts over ſeveral little kingdoms.

RELIGION.] Moſt of the inhabitants of this country are either Mahometans or idolaters, but there are ſome few Chriſtians.

SECT. V.

Of GUINEA.

Q. HOW is Guinea bounded, and what is its extent?

A. It is bounded, on the north by Negroland, on the ſouth and weſt by the ocean, and on the Eaſt by Ethiopia. Its length is about 1800 miles, and its breadth about 600.

Q. How is it divided?

A. Into four general parts, viz. the Maleguette or Grain Coaſt, the Ivory Coaſt, the Gold Coaſt, and the kingdom of Benin, the weſtern part whereof the Europeans call the Slave Coaſt.

Q. Which are the chief towns in Guinea?

A. 1. In that part called the Grain Coaſt, (from a kind of pepper which grows there in abundance) is Bura, Sanguin, Great Seſtra, and ſome other towns, but none very conſiderable. 2. On the Ivory or Tooth Coaſt are Botru, Jaquelaheu, Tabo, and Grua. 3. On the Gold Coaſt the Europeans have

many ſettlements, and have built forts to ſecure their trade. The beſt of them all is St. George de la Mina, belonging to the Dutch; next to which is Cabo Corſo, or Cape-coaſt-caſtle, belonging to the Engliſh; and the Danes have a fort called Chriſtianburgh. Within land are great Accara, great Accanis, and many other towns, which are ſcarce worth mentioning. 4. Great Benin, the capital of the kingdom of Benin, is the largeſt, beſt built, and moſt populous city in Guinea; but no foreigners are permitted to reſide there. Arcba, or Arebo, which ſtands on the ſame river that Benin does, but eighty miles nearer its mouth, is reſorted to by Europeans on account of trade. On the Slave Coaſt, (as the Europeans call the weſtern part of this kingdom) are Popo, Jackem, and and other towns, where the Slave-Trade is carried on. About forty miles from the ſea is Ardra, a large open town, the capital of a kingdom.

Q. Of what kind is the air, ſoil, &c. of Guinea?

Air and Soil.] The air is hot and unwholeſome, eſpecially to ſtrangers; but the ſoil is generally rich, producing plenty of corn, rice, fruits, and paſture. Many of the mountains are adorned with trees of an extraordinary height, and the valleys are agreeably interſperſed with villages, the country being exceedingly populous.

COMMODITIES.] One of the chief commodities of Guinea is gold, which is not dug out of mines, but waſhed down by the torrents that fall from the mountains, and found amongſt the ſand and mud of the rivers. The reſt are elephants teeth, (or ivory) hides, wax, pepper, and ſeveral drugs. To theſe add the negro ſlaves, who are generally ſuch as are taken priſoners in war, or in the excurſions which the petty princes of this country make on purpoſe into each others territories, and are brought down to the Coaſt to be ſold to the merchants of Europe. Many thouſands of theſe unhappy creatures are annually tranſported by the Europeans to America, either to work in the plantations there, or in the mines of Mexico and Peru. A ſort of commerce ſcarce to be defended either upon the foot of religion or humanity.

RARITIES.] The chief curioſities of Guinea are ſome ſtrange animals and other natural productions of the country, which it would be too tedious to deſcribe.

CHARACTER.] The natives of Guinea are generally courteous to ſtrangers, and do not want for good ſenſe; but they are ſaid to be addicted to cheating. The languages of this country are ſo various, that no leſs than eight or ten are ſpoken on the Gold Coaſt only.

GOVERNMENT.] Guinea is divided into

a multitude of kingdoms or ſovereignties, in which the princes are generally abſolute; but the leſſer are for the moſt part dependent on the greater. The king of Benin is the moſt powerful, having very large dominions.

RELIGION.] The natives of Guinea are generally idolaters, though many of them acknowledge one Supreme Being, the Creator of the univerſe. Serpents and other animals, and even vegetables are worſhipped in ſome parts of this country.

SECT. VI.

Of ETHIOPIA.

Q. WHAT are the boundaries and extent of Ethiopia?

A. Under the general name of Ethiopia I include all the remaining part of Africa. In this ſenſe it is bounded on the north-eaſt by the Red Sea; on the north and north-weſt by Egypt, Zaara, Negroland, and Guinea; and on all other ſides by the ocean. Its length from north to ſouth is about

3600 miles, and its breadth about 2000 in ſome places.

Q. How is it divided?

A. Into two great parts, the upper and lower. The upper Ethiopia comprehends Nubia, Abyſſinia, and the Coaſts of Ajan and Zanguebar. The lower contains the kingdoms of Loango, Congo, Angola, and Benguela; the Coaſt and country of the Caffrees; the empires of Monomopata and Manoemugi; and the kingdoms of Biafara, Mujac, Gengiro, Macoco, and ſeveral others on each ſide of the equator, of which we have very little knowledge.

Q. Which are the chief towns in theſe countries?

A. 1. In the Upper Ethiopia, the capital of Nubia, is SENNAR, which ſtands on an Eminence on the weſt ſide of the Nile; though ſome reckon Dongolo, or Dancala, which is lower down on the eaſt ſide of that River, the chief city of the country.—GONDAR or GONTHAR is the capital of Abyſſinia, though the emperors are ſtill crowned at Axum, which is now ruinous. This empire is divided into many provinces, ſome of which are ſubject to a people called the Gallas. The Turks are maſters of ſeveral of their ports on the Red Sea, the beſt whereof is Squakem.—On the Coaſt of Ajan is Adel or Auzagurele, the capital of the kingdom of Adel; and Zeila, a good

Port near the Streights of Babelmandel. On the eaſtern Coaſt are Magadoxo, near the mouth of a river of the ſame name, the capital of a kingdom: and Brava, a rich trading town, and capital of a conſiderable republic.—On the Coaſt of Zanguebar which is alſo divided into ſeveral kingdoms or ſtates, the moſt noted towns are Melinda, Mombaza, Quiloa, and Mozambique, all ſeaports of great trade. The Portugueſe have ſtrong forts at the three firſt mentioned places, and Mozambique is entirely in their poſſeſſion, which is a well fortified, populous, and trading city.

2. As to the lower Ethiopia; the kingdoms of Loango and Benguela have capitals of the ſame name. The chief city of Congo is St. Salvador, a name given to it by the Portugueſe, who have twelve or fifteen churches there. The capital of Angola is Loando, or St. Paul de la Loando, a handſome city on the Coaſt, where the Portugueſe governor generally reſides. The Coaſt of the Caffrees extends from Cape Negro on the weſt ſide of Africa, to the mouth of the river Zambeze of Cuama on the eaſt. It comprehends a great many nations or tribes, governed by their ſeveral kings or chiefs, but there are ſcarce any towns of note in the whole country that we know of, except ſome few upon the ſea Coaſt. On the weſtern Coaſt there are none worth

mentioning. At the Cape of Good Hope, the moſt ſouthern point of Africa, the Dutch have a good town and fort. Sofala, on the eaſt ſide, is a large city, ſurrounded by a canal, and defended by a fort, being one of the chief ſettlements of the Portugueſe on theſe Coaſts.—Zimbaoe, the capital of the empire of Monomotapa, is large and populous; and the emperor's palace, though built of wood, is ſaid to be all gilt or covered with plates of gold.—I forbear to mention other inland towns, of which we know little but their names.

Q. Of what ſort is the air, ſoil, &c. of Ethiopia?

Air and Soil.] The greateſt part of this vaſt country lying within the Torrid Zone, the air is generally very hot, except where the mountains and the neighbourhood of the ſea render it temperate. In many places the ſoil is ſandy and barren, but in general it is fertile enough, eſpecially near the rivers, producing plenty of Grain, fruits, and Herbage.

Commodities.] The chief of theſe are gold, ſilver, copper, ivory, ebony, pearls, wax, frankincenſe, ambergriſe, muſk, pepper, ſugar, tobacco, cattle, rice, millet, lemons, citrons, aloes, tamarinds, and other fruits and drugs. To theſe add ſlaves, of whom vaſt numbers are tranſported from Angola to America. As to gold, there are

ſuch rich mines of it in ſome parts of Ethiopia, eſpecially in the empire of Monomotapa, that the country about Sofala has been judged to be the land of Ophir.

RARITIES.] In Nubia there is a ſmall ſeed gathered from the top of an herb like a nettle, which produces ſuch a deadly poiſon, that the tenth part of a grain kills a man preſently.—In Abyſſinia there is a great hollow rock, oppoſite to which is another ſo ſituated, that a word whiſpered on the top of it is heard at a conſiderable diſtance; and the voices of ſeveral perſons ſpeaking at once ſeem like the ſhout of a numerous army.—Lions, leopards, tigers, elephants, rhinoceroſes, and other animals, may be reckoned among the curioſities of Ethiopia.

CHARACTER.] The Abyſſinians are ſaid to have a great deal of wit, and to be fond of learning. The Hottentots about the Cape of good Hope, are not ſuch fools as they have been repreſented; they are honeſt and faithful to their engagements, and very generous and hoſpitable. Indeed they are lazy, and delight in naſtineſs, their ornaments conſiſting of the guts of animals, which they wear about them until they wear quite dry, and then eat them up. But I ſhall not attempt to give a particular character of the various nations of Ethiopia, it being ſufficient to ſay, that in general they are ignorant, unpoliſhed,

and ſuperſtitious. As to their languages, they are numerous, and little known.

GOVERNMENT.] Nubia is governed by the two kings of Sennar and Dongola, the latter being tributary to the former. Abyſſinia is under an abſolute monarch called the Negus. The Portugueſe are maſters of Angola and Benguela; though they have ſtill their kings, as well as Congo and Loango. The emperor of Monomotapa is abſolute, and ſo are moſt of the petty kings and princes in Ethiopia, though ſome of the ſmall ones are tributary to the greater. The ſeveral tribes or nations of the Hottentots have likewiſe their own independent chiefs.

RELIGION.] The Chriſtian religion once flouriſhed in Nubia, but now the Mahometan prevails. Moſt of the Abyſſinians are Chriſtians, according to the ſect of the Copti or Egyptians; the reſt are Pagans, Jews, or Mahometans. The Romiſh religion has got great footing in Congo, Angola, and ſome other parts, by means of the Portugueſe. The other inhabitants of Ethiopia are either Mahometans or groſs idolaters, except in Monomotapa, where they believe in one God, and uſe no images in their worſhip. The Hottentots believe in a Supreme Being, whom they call the Great Captain; but worſhip the ſun and moon, and ſome ſay evil ſpirits.

SECT. VII.

Of the AFRICAN ISLANDS.

Q. WHICH are the chief Iſlands of Africa?

A. 1. Madagaſcar, a large iſland, about 900 miles in length, lying eaſtward of the Coaſt of the Caffrees and Zanguebar. It is governed by ſeveral petty princes or lords, who are frequently at war with each other. The country in general is fruitful enough, and full of cattle, but is not much frequented by European merchants. The natives are a wild, inhoſpitable, treacherous people. They are moſt of them Pagans, but ſome are Mahometans. Fanſhere, a little northward of Fort Dauphin, is reckoned the chief town of the iſland.

2. The Iſle of Bourbon, or Maſcarenhas, to the eaſtward of Madagaſcar, which is poſſeſſed by the French. The chief town is St. Paul. It is a pleaſant and fruitful iſland.

3. Mauritius, or Maurice Iſland, lies eaſt of the Iſle of Bourbon. It belongs to the French. It abounds with ebony, and is remarkable for its large tortoiſes.

5. The Comorra Iſlands, between Madagaſcar and the Coaſt of Zanguebar.

5. Zocotora, or Socatra, near the mouth of the Red Sea, noted for its fine aloes.

6. The Madeira Iſlands, lying weſt of the Coaſt of Barbary, belong to the Portugueſe. The two largeſt are Madeira and Porto Santo. In the former is Funchal or Fonchal, the chief town, and reſidence of the Portugueſe Governor. Madeira is famous for its wine, which is ſent to Europe and the Weſt-Indies.

7. The Canary Iſles, lying ſouth of the Maderias, belong to the crown of Spain. They are about fourteen in number, the principal of which are Canaria, Teneriff, Forteventura, Ferro, Palma, Gomera, and Lancerota. The Spaniſh governor reſides at Las Palmas in Canaria, which has a good Port, and is well fortified. Theſe iſlands are noted for that rich wine which we uſually call ſack, and for their fine ſinging-birds. Teneriff is remarkable for its prodigious mountain called the Pike, by ſome reckoned the higheſt in the world, its perpendicular height being about four Engliſh miles.

8. The Iſles of Cape Verde, lying oppoſite

to a Cape of that name in Negroland, belong to the Portugueſe. They are ten in number the principal of which is St. Jago, with a town of the ſame name, where the Portugueſe governor reſides; and here our ſhips frequently touch for water and freſh proviſions in their voyage to the Eaſt-Indies. The other Iſlands are St. Anthony, St. Vincent, St. Lucia, St. Nicolas, Sal, Bonaviſta, Mayo, Fuego, and Brava. Great quantities of ſalt are exported from theſe Iſlands, eſpecially from Sal and Mayo.

9. Several little iſlands lie diſperſed in the ocean between the Coaſt of Guinea and the Tropic of Capricorn; the chief whereof are Fernando Po, Prince's Iſle, St. Thomas, Annobon, St. Matthew, Aſcenſion, and St. Helena. The ſix firſt belongs to the Portugueſe, and St. Helena to the Engliſh. This laſt is a plentiful little iſland, well ſtocked with hogs, goats, and poultry, and its air is exceedingly wholeſome. It is of great uſe to our Eaſt-India company, whoſe ſhips generally call there for refreſhment.—The Iſlands on the Coaſt of Africa in the Mediterranean are not conſiderable.

CHAP. IV.

Of AMERICA *in general.*

Q. HOW is America bounded, and what is its extent?

A. It is bounded on the eaſt by the Atlantic Ocean, which ſeparates it from Europe and Africa; on the weſt by the South Sea, or Pacific Ocean; on the ſouth by the Streights of Magellan; and on the north by the Arctic Lands; or (to ſpeak more properly) its northern boundaries are not known. It is in length (without including the unknown countries) about 7000 miles, and about 3700 broad; but the narrow Iſthmus of Panama is not above 60 miles over.

Q. How is it divided?

A. It is naturally divided, by the Iſthmus juſt mentioned, into two great parts, viz. North and South America.

Q. How is North America divided?

A. Into four parts, viz. 1. Mexico, or New Spain. 2. New Mexico, California, &c. 3. The Britiſh dominions on the con-

tinent. 4. The United States, or Republic of America.

Q. How is South America divided?

A. Into ſeven parts, viz. 1. Terra Firma. 2. The land of the Amazons. 3. Braſil. 4. Peru. 5. Chili. 6. Paraguay. 7. Terra Magellanica.—To which add the American Iſlands.

SECT. I.

Of MEXICO, *or* NEW SPAIN.

Q. HOW is New Spain bounded, and what is its extent?

A. It is bounded on the ſouth-eaſt by Terra Firma, and the gulf of Mexico; on the weſt and ſouth by the South Sea; and on the north by New Mexico. It is about 2000 miles long, and 600 broad, but much narrower in ſome places.

Q. How is it divided?

A. Into three parts called Audiences, viz. Mexico, Guadalajara, and Guatimala; which are ſubdivided into various provinces.

Q. Which are the chief towns in this country?

A. The city of Mexico is the capital not only of proper Mexico, but of all the Spaniſh dominions in North America. It ſtands in a lake, having a communication with the main land by ſeveral cauſeways. The ſtreets are ſtraight, interſecting each other at right angles, and the buildings in general are as beautiful and ſtately as any in Europe. Guadulajara and St. Jagde Guatimala, the capitals of the other Audiences, are rich, populous, and well-built cities. The moſt noted parts of this country are Acapulco in the South Sea, from whence the Spaniards carry on a very advantageous commerce to Aſia; and La Vera Cruz (or St. Juan de Uloa) in the gulf of Mexico, their ſtaple for the Merchandizes of Europe brought thither by the Spaniſh Flota, which returns to Old Spain laden with the treaſures of the New.

Q. Of what nature is the air, ſoil, &c. of Mexico.

Air and Soil.] The air is for the moſt part temperate and healthful, and the ſoil fertile, producing good paſture, and various ſorts of grain and fruits.

Commodities.] Theſe are chiefly gold, ſilver, copper, wool, cotton, ſilk, cochineal, feathers, tallow, hides, cocoa-nuts, honey, wax, ginger, tobacco, amber, balſam, ſalt, and logwood.

RARITIES.] There are ſeveral remarkable volcanoes in Mexico; and on the weſtern Coaſt is a great hollow rock, with a large hole at the top, which makes a frightful noiſe at every ſurge of the ſea, and ſpouts up water to a prodigious height.

CHARACTER.] The natives are a civil, docile, and faithful people. The manners of the Spaniards are much the ſame with thoſe in Europe; and their language is the moſt prevailing in Mexico

GOVERNMENT.] This country is governed by a viceroy ſent from Spain, who reſides in the city of Mexico.

RELIGION.] The eſtabliſhed religion is that of the church of Rome, to which ſome of the native Indians have been converted, but moſt of them are ſtill Pagans.

SECT. II.

Of NEW MEXICO, CALIFORNIA, LOUISIANA, &c.

Q. HOW is New Mexico bounded, and of what extent?

A. New Mexico (or New Granada) is bounded on the north and eaſt by Louiſiana, on the weſt by the Vermillion Sea and California, and on the ſouth by New Spain. Its length is about 800 miles, and breadth about 720.

Q. What is the extent and boundaries of California?

A. Its extent is uncertain, the countries on the north of it being unknown. On the eaſt it has New Mexico, and the Vermillion Sea, or gulf of California; and on the ſouth and weſt the South Sea or Pacific Ocean. It is a large peninſula, and till of late years was thought to be an Iſland. Sir Francis Drake touched upon its northweſt Coaſt, and gave it the name of New Albion.

Q. What are the boundaries, &c. of Louiſiana?

A. Louiſiana extends along the weſt bank of the Miſſiſſippi, and is bounded on the ſouth by the gulf of Mexico, and on the weſt by New Mexico, and countries inhabited by the Indians. It belonged to the French, who after the laſt peace ceded it to the Spaniards.

Q. What are the boundaries of Eaſt and Weſt-Florida?

A. Eaſt-Florida is bounded on the north by St. John's River, which ſeparates it from Georgia; on the eaſt and ſouth by the Atlantic Ocean, and the gulf of Florida; on the ſouth-weſt by Weſt-Florida; and on the north-weſt by the country of the Creek-Indians. Weſt-Florida is bounded on the north by the Chikitaws; on the eaſt by Eaſt-Florida; on the ſouth by the gulf of Mexico; and on the weſt by the Miſſiſſippi.

Q. What are the climate and produce of Florida?

A. The climate reſembles that of Georgia, and is in Summer exceſſively hot. The ſoil of Eaſt-Florida is capable of raiſing corn, rice, indico, and ſilk; but it is inferior to that of Weſt-Florida; yet is capable of producing many valuable commodities.

Q. Which are the chief towns of theſe countries?

A. The Spaniſh towns in New Mexico

are not ſo numerous as thoſe of the Indians. Their chief city is Santa Fé, ſome mile to the eaſtward of the river Del Norte. As to California, we know nothing of the inland parts of it. The principal city of Louiſiana is New Orleans, ſeated in the Iſle of Orleans, at the mouth of the Miſſiſſippi. The metropolis of Eaſt-Florida is St. Auguſtin, and that of Weſt-Florida, Penſacola.

Q. What ſort of air, ſoil, &c. does Mexico enjoy?

AIR and SOIL.] The air of New Mexico is temperate and wholeſome, and the ſoil generally fruitful, except where it is overrun with woods and mountains.

COMMODITIES.] Theſe are ſilver, pearls, precious ſtones, and cattle; in which laſt the chief wealth of the natives conſiſts.

CHARACTER.] The ſeveral Indian nations or tribes inhabiting New Mexico are ſaid to be the moſt civilized in all America. They delight in hunting, and are pretty well ſkilled in agriculture.

GOVERNMENT.] New Mexico is under a Spaniſh governor, who reſides at Santa Fé; but the natives have ſtill their own chiefs call Caciques. The Spaniards have not yet conquered California, which is governed by ſeveral petty princes.

RELIGION.] That of the Spaniards is the ſame as in Europe; but the natives are moſtly idolaters, though many of them acknowledge one Supreme Being.

SECT. III.

Of the BRITISH *Dominions on the Continent.*

Q. HOW are the Britiſh dominions bounded?

A. They are bounded on the north by the gulf of St. Laurence, and St. John's river, on the eaſt by the Atlantic Ocean and the Bay of St. Laurence; on the ſouth by the United States of America; and on the weſt by countries inhabited by the Indians, the Apalachian mountains, and the river Miſſiſſippi.

Q. How are they divided?

A. Into the countries about Hudſon's Bay, and the following colonies: I. Canada, now named the province of Quebec. II. Nova Scotia.

Q. What is moſt worthy of notice, with reſpect to the countries about Hudſon's Bay?

A. Theſe countries, which extend 1600 Miles in length, are claimed by Great

Britain, and diſtinguiſhed by Engliſh names, as the Eaſt Coaſt by that of New Britain, and the Weſt by thoſe of New North Wales, and New South Wales; but the climate being extremely ſevere, we have no ſettlements upon them, except a few Forts belonging to the Hudſon's Bay company, who trade thither chiefly for furs.

Q. What are the boundaries and extent of Canada?

A. Canada, or the province of Quebec, is bounded on the north-eaſt by the gulf of St. Laurence, and St. John's river; on the north-weſt, ſouth and ſouth-weſt, by countries inhabited by the Indians; and on the ſouth-eaſt by the provinces of Nova Scotia, and by the United States, it extending about 500 miles from the north-eaſt to the ſouth-weſt, and upwards of 200 in breadth.

Q. What is there memorable with reſpect to this country?

A. The climate is very cold in winter, but the ſummers are exceeding pleaſant, and the farmers generally reap their corn in ſix weeks, from the time of ſowing it. This country was conquered by Great Britain in the late war, and the European inhabitants being deſcended from the French, are of the Romiſh religion, and have a biſhop of that perſuaſion appointed by his Britannic majeſty. Its principal towns are Quebec and Montreal.

Q. What are the boundaries of Nova Scotia?

A. Nova Scotia, or New Scotland, is bounded on the north by the river of St. Laurence, which ſeparates it from Canada; on the eaſt by the gulf of St. Laurence; on the ſouth by the Atlantic ocean; and on the weſt by a part of the United States.

Q. What have you elſe to obſerve of Nova Scotia?

A. The climate is pretty ſharp in winter, and the froſts long. It is, however, a pretty fruitful country, and affords plenty of game and fiſh; alſo wheat, rye, Indian corn, peaſe, beans, hemp, flax, &c. The principal towns are Halifax and Annapolis; the former has an excellent harbour, which is the place of rendezvous for the royal navy in America. The king is, both here and in Canada, ſovereign of the ſoil, and appoints the governor, lieutenant-governor, and council.

SECT. IV.

The United States; or Republic of AMERICA.

Q. WHAT part of the continent is poſſeſſed by the United States?

A. All the eaſtern coaſt of America; and extending weſtward to the River Miſſiſſippi.

Q. How are they divided!

A. The ſtates of new Hampſhire, Maſſachuſet's Bay, Rhode Iſland, and Providence plantation, Connecticut; theſe were formerly called the New England colonies, and to them has lately been added the State of Vermont. Proceeding to the ſouth are the ſtates of New-York, New-Jerſey, Pennſylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina and Georgia.

Q. How are the five ſtates, formerly called New England bounded?

A. It is bounded on the north-eaſt and eaſt by Nova Scotia and the Bay of Fundy;

on the north-weſt by Canada; on the ſouth-weſt by the province of New-York; and on the ſouth and ſouth-eaſt by the Atlantic ocean.

Q. What have you farther to obſerve of New England?

A. The winters are cold, and the ſummers hot. The country produces plenty of iron-ore, timber, cattle, corn, and flax. The inhabitants are chiefly independants and preſbyterians; and the principal town is Boſton, which is ſeated in the province of Maſſachuſet's Bay, and is large, handſome, and well built.

Q. What are the boundaries of New-York?

A. It is bounded on the north by Canada, on the eaſt by New England; on the north-weſt and weſt by the lands of the Indians, and part of Penſylvania; and on the ſouth-weſt and ſouth by the province of New-Jerſey and the Atlantic ocean.

Q. What are its ſoil, produce, &c.

A. The ſoil of this province is generally very pleaſant and fertile, and produces abundance of wheat, barley, peaſe, hemp, and fruit, with excellent timber. The capital city is New-York, which is ſeated on an iſland.

Q. What are the boundaries of Penſylvania?

A. This province is bounded on the north

by the lands of Indians; on the eaſt by New-York; on the weſt by the Apalachian Mountains; on the ſouth by Maryland; and on the ſoutheaſt by the Jerſies.

Q. What are its climate, produce, &c.

A. This climate is extremely agreeable, and the country, like thoſe juſt mentioned, produces grain and fruit, hemp and flax, black-cattle, ſheep, iron, and timber.

Moſt of the inhabitants are Quakers, and the principal city is Philadelphia, which is one of the fineſt and beſt ſituated towns in America.

Q. What are the boundaries and diviſions of New Jerſey.

A. This province is bounded on the weſt by Penſylvania, on the ſouth by Maryland, on the north by New-York, and on the eaſt by the Atlantic Ocean. It is divided into eaſt and weſt Jerſey.

Q. What are its produce, &c.

A. It produces great quantities of copper and iron; all kinds of Engliſh grain, and the beſt cyder in the continent. The chief town is Burlington.

Q. What are the boundaries and extent of Maryland?

A. This province is bounded on the north by Penſylvania and Delaware Bay; on the eaſt by the Atlantic ocean; on the ſouth by Virginia; and on the weſt by the Apalachian mountains; and is divided into the eaſtern

and weſtern diviſions, by the Cheſapeak-Bay.

Q. What are its produce, &c.

A. Its produce is the ſame with that of Virginia; there are here no conſiderable towns, the houſes being ſcattered on the banks of the creeks and rivers, but the place of moſt note is Annapolis. The principal part of the inhabitants are Roman Catholics.

Q. What are the boundaries of Virginia?

A. This province is bounded on the north by Maryland; on the eaſt by the Atlantic Ocean; on the ſouth by Carolina; and on the weſt by the Apalachian mountains.

Q. What are the climate and produce of Virginia and Maryland?

A. The heat and cold in both theſe provinces are governed by the winds. The north and north-weſt winds are commonly cold and clear, the ſouth-eaſt, moiſt, hazy, and very hot. In winter the air is clear and dry, with ſharp froſts, but of ſhort duration. The months of May and June are very pleaſant, the two following months are exceſſively hot, and in September and October the rains fall. The woods abound with flowers and fruit. The principal produce is tobacco, of which 100,000 hogſheads are annually exported. The principal town is Williamſburgh.

Q. What are the boundaries and extent of North and South Carolina and Georgia?

A. Theſe provinces are bounded on the north by Virginia; on the eaſt by the Atlantic Ocean, on the ſouth by St. John's River, which ſeparates Georgia from Eaſt Florida; and on the weſt by the Miſſiſſippi. Theſe provinces, which are now three diſtinct governments, were originally but one.

Q. What are the produce of theſe provinces?

A. The chief produce is tobacco, indigo, and rice. The fruits and trees are the ſame as in Virginia. The birds are numerous, and of many beautiful kinds; and there are many animals unknown in more northern climates. Wilmington is the principal town in North Carolina, and Charles-Town in South Carolina, is the metropolis of the province. The principal towns in Georgia are Savanna and Frederica.

Q. What is the form of government by which theſe States are united?

A. All theſe States are united by one legiſlative body, called a Congreſs, compoſed of a houſe of repreſentatives a ſenate, and a preſident. The repreſentatives and ſenate are elected by each ſtate; the number of repreſentatives ſent is according to the population of the ſtate, ſome ſending only one, and the largeſt (Virginia) ten; but each ſtate has two members in the ſenate. The pre-

ſident of the Congreſs has very extenſive powers; he is elected by all the ſtates, and holds his office for four years.

Q. Is any particular form of religion eſtabliſhed in the United States.

A. There is not; profeſſors of every denomination of religion have equal privileges; perſons admitted to public offices are only obliged to declare their belief in the Chriſtian Religion.

Q. Is there any thing remarkable with reſpect to theſe States?

A. They were in the poſſeſſion of Great Britain till the year 1774 when the Parliament of that country attempted to tax them without the conſent of their own houſes of aſſembly: this attempt the Americans reſiſted, and on July 4, 1776, declared themſelves free and Independant States; which independence Great Britain after a long and fruitleſs war, acknowledged in 1782.

Q. What are the general exports, rarities, &c. of North-America?

COMMODITIES.] Virginia and Maryland export vaſt quanties of tobacco. The other provinces furniſh fiſh, oil, various ſorts of ſkins and furs, beef, pork, wheat, rice, and other proviſions; alſo hoops, pipe-ſtaves, planks, maſts, pitch, tar, and other naval ſtores, with which New-England in particular abounds.

RARITIES.] Theſe are chiefly ſome animals not known in Europe, as the mooſe, the humming-bird, the rattle-ſnake, and ſeveral others. Virginia is remarkable for the vaſt number of oyſter-ſhells found intermixed with the earth at the depth of three or four yards in many places.

SECT. V.

Of TERRA FIRMA.

Q. HOW is Terra Firma bounded, and what is its extent?

A. It is bounded on the north and eaſt by the North-Sea, on the ſouth by Peru and the land of the Amazons, and on the weſt by the South-Sea and the iſthmus of Panama or Darien. It is about 1700 miles long, and 800 broad.

Q. How is it divided, and which are the chief towns?

A. It is divided into eight or ten provinces. Carthagena is the chief city of the whole, a place well fortified both by art and nature; but the ſtrongeſt caſtles which defended the entrance of the Bay were taken and razed by the Engliſh under ad-

Admiral Vernon in 1741, though they could not make themſelves maſters of the town. Panama is a noted town and port on the South-Sea, from whence the treaſures of Peru are carried by land to Porto Bello, a town on the oppoſite Coaſt, which was taken by the ſame Admiral in 1739, and its caſtles demoliſhed. The other towns of note upon the Coaſt are Santa Martha, La Hacha, St. Thomas at the mouth of the river Oroonoko; and Surinam, a fine ſettlement belonging to the Dutch. Within land are Santa Fé de Bogota, Popayan, Venezuela, Merida, and other conſiderable towns.

Q. Of what kind is the air, ſoil, &c. of Terra Firma?

Air and Soil.] The air is hot and unwholeſome, eſpecially along the northern coaſt. Many parts of the country produce plenty of corn, fruits, and paſture; others are ſandy, mountainous, or over-run with woods.

Commodities.] Theſe are chiefly gold, ſilver, precious ſtones, cocoa-nuts, long pepper, balſam, roſin, gums, cotton, ſugar, and tobacco.

Rarities.] There is a great cataract in one of the branches of the river Oroonoko; and a lake on the top of a high mountain, ſaid to be well ſtored with fiſh.

Character.] The natives ſpend moſt

of their time in hunting, and are good ſoldiers.

GOVERNMENT.] Some of the inland parts are ſtill under the natives, whom the Spaniards have not ſubdued. The reſt of the country is ruled by a Spaniſh deputy-governor, who is under the viceroy of Mexico, and reſides at Carthagena.

RELIGION.] The natives are idolaters; the Spaniards of the Romiſh faith.

SECT. VI.

Of the Land of the AMAZONS.

Q. HOW is the country of the Amazons bounded, and what is its extent?

A. It is bounded on the eaſt by Braſil, on the weſt by Peru, on the north by Terra Firma, and on the ſouth by Paraguay. Its length is about 1300 miles, and its breadth about 1200.

Q. How is it divided, and which are the chief towns?

A. Europeans know very little of this country, nor have they yet built any towns in it; though the Portugueſe have ſome

ſmall ſettlements near the mouth of the river of Amazons, which runs through the country from weſt to eaſt, and is one of the greateſt in the world.

Q. Of what nature is the air, ſoil, &c. of this country?

AIR and SOIL.] The air is more temperate than is uſual in ſuch a latitude; and thoſe parts which are diſcovered are ſaid to be fruitful.

COMMODITIES.] The natives have very little trade with foreigners, though the country produces ſugar, cocoa-nuts, ebony, tobacco, &c. and has mines of gold and ſilver.

RARITIES.] We know of none worth mentioning.

CHARACTER.] The natives are a fierce warlike people, ſome of the women uſing arms, and fighting like the men. The firſt diſcoverers of the country gave it the name it bears, on account of theſe female warriors.

GOVERNMENT.] The nations have their ſeveral chiefs, who are ſuppoſed to be abſolute.

RELIGION.] The natives in general are ſaid to be idolaters.

SECT. VII.

Of BRASIL.

Q. HOW is Braſil bounded, and what is its extent?

A. On the eaſt, north, and ſouth it is bounded by the Atlantic Ocean; and on the weſt by Paraguay and the land of the Amazons. It is about 2150 miles long, and about 1200 broad, but much narrower towards the ſouth.

Q. How is it divided, and which are the chief towns?

A. It is divided into fifteen captainſhips, viz. Para, Maragnan, Siara, Rio Grande, Parayba, Tamarica, Fernambuco, Seregippe, Baya, Ilheos, Porto Seguro, Spiritu Santo, Rio Jazeiro, San Vincent, and Del Rey. Moſt of theſe diviſions take their names from the chief towns in each, but the capital of Braſil is St. Salvador, or Baya, which ſtands on a point of land at the entrance of the Baya de todos Santos, or Bay of all Saints. It contains about 2000 houſes, and is a place of great trade. Fernambuco, or Olinda, is a rich trading town; and ſo is San Sebaſ-

ſtian, the capital of the province of Rio Janeiro. Parryba is well built, the houſes being of ſtone, and ſome of them with fine marble pillars. St. Gabriel is a ſmall town, but the chief, if not the only one, in the captainſhip of Del Rey.

Q. Of what kind is the air, ſoil, &c. of Braſil?

AIR and SOIL.] The air is for the moſt part temperate and healthful, and the ſoil very fertile, ſo far as the country has been diſcovered, for the inland parts are but little known.

COMMODITIES.] Theſe are gold, diamonds, Braſil wood, ſugar, tobacco, hides, tallow, train oil, amber, roſin, balſam, ſaffron, cotton, &c.

RARITIES.] Monkeys, parrots, and other animals are the chief curioſities of this country.

CHARACTER.] Some of the native Braſilians are wild and barbarous, but others are kind, tractable, and ingenious.

GOVERNMENT.] A large tract of Sea-Coaſt, divided into the captainſhips above mentioned, is under the Portugueſe, whoſe governor reſides at St. Salvador; but in the parts that are far within land the natives have their chiefs.

RELIGION.] The Portugueſe are of the Romiſh faith, to which they have brought

many of the natives; but the greateſt part are ſtill pagans.

SECT. VIII.

Of PERU.

Q. HOW is Peru bounded, and what is its extent?

A. It is bounded on the eaſt by the land of the Amazons, on the weſt by the ſouth ſea, on the north by Terra Firma, and on the ſouth by Paraguay and Chili. It is about 1700 miles in length, and 600 in breadth.

Q. How is it divided, and which are the principal towns?

A. It is divided into the three audiences of Quito, Lima, and the Charcas.—Quito, the capital of the audience, is a large well-built city, very near the equator. In this audience is Payta, a noted ſeaport, taken and burnt by Commodore Anſon in 1742. —In the audience of Lima (called alſo De los Reyes and Proper Peru) there are 20 or 30 conſiderable towns, the chief of which is Lima, the capital of all Peru. It is a rich and populous city, and has a very good

port called Callao, about two leagues diſtant, from whence the treaſure of this country is ſhipped for Panama, to be ſent to Europe. Truxillo, not far from the coaſt, is a large well-buſlt town. Cuſco, within land, was the metropolis of Peru, before it was conquered by the Spaniards.—La Plata, the capital of the Charcas, is very populous, but the largeſt and moſt noted city in this audience is Potoſi, at the foot of a mountain of the ſame name, which has the richeſt ſilver mines in the world. Arica, about eighty leagues diſtant, is the Port from whence the treaſure is conveyed to Lima.

Q. Of what nature is the air, ſoil, &c. of Peru?

Air and Soil.] In the plains which lie along the coaſt it never rains, and yet they produce both grain and paſture, being refreſhed by frequent dews: and the breezes from the ſea render the air temperate. The vallies amongſt the Sierra, or hills that run through the middle of the country, are very fruitful, being ſubject to rain moſt of the year: and here the air is very hot. The Andes, a long chain of high mountains that lie fartheſt from the ſea, are cold and barren, their tops being almoſt perpetually covered with ſnow.

Commodities.] Theſe are gold, ſilver, pearls, cotton, tobacco, cochineal, and other drugs,

RARITIES.] Beſides the rich mines of Peru, which are its moſt valuable curioſities, we find the ruins of many ſtately Indian temples; alſo thoſe of a palace of the ancient kings of Peru, called Incas, near Cuſco, which has been a wonderful ſtructure.

CHARACTER.] The Peruvians have a good genius for mechanic arts, and are naturally a brave, generous, and hoſpitable people: but they bear an implacable hatred to the Spaniards for their barbarous uſage.

GOVERNMENT.] The ſeveral Indian nations have their chiefs, but pay tribute to the Spaniards. The Spaniſh viceroy reſides in great ſtate at Lima.

RELIGION.] The natives as formerly worſhip the ſun, except ſuch as have been brought to the Romiſh faith by the Spaniards.

SECT. IX.

Of CHILI.

Q. WHICH are the boundaries, and what the extent of Chili?

A. It is bounded on the eaſt by Paraguay and Terra Magellanica, on the ſouth by

the latter, on the west by the south sea, and on the north by Peru. It is about 1200 miles long, and 350 broad, but much narrower in some places.

Q. How is it divided, and which are the chief towns?

A. It is divided into three parts, namely, Chili Proper, Chili Imperial, and Chucuito.—In Chili Proper is St. Jago, the capital of the whole country, a large, rich, and populous city, about 70 miles from Valparaiso, which is its port, and is therefore much frequented. The other seaports in this province are La Serena or Coquimbo, Guasco, and Copiapo.—The chief town of Chili Imperial is La Conception, a place of great resort. Baldivia has an excellent harbour, and is well fortified. The other towns are of no great note.—The principal places in Chucuito are Mendoza, St. Juan de la Frontera, and Diamante, which have rich mines near them.

Q. Of what nature is the air, soil, &c. of Chili?

Air and Soil.] The air in summer is temperate, but very cold in the winter. The vallies produce grain, pasture, and fruits, and the vines brought hither from Spain thrive very well; but great part of the country is mountainous and barren, disturbed by frequent earthquakes and burning volcanos.

RARITIES.] Beſides the rich mines of Peru, which are its moſt valuable curioſities, we find the ruins of many ſtately Indian temples; alſo thoſe of a palace of the ancient kings of Peru, called Incas, near Cuſco, which has been a wonderful ſtructure.

CHARACTER.] The Peruvians have a good genius for mechanic arts, and are naturally a brave, generous, and hoſpitable people: but they bear an implacable hatred to the Spaniards for their barbarous uſage.

GOVERNMENT.] The ſeveral Indian nations have their chiefs, but pay tribute to the Spaniards. The Spaniſh viceroy reſides in great ſtate at Lima.

RELIGION.] The natives as formerly worſhip the ſun, except ſuch as have been brought to the Romiſh faith by the Spaniards.

SECT. IX.

Of CHILI.

Q. WHICH are the boundaries, and what the extent of Chili?

A. It is bounded on the eaſt by Paraguay and Terra Magellanica, on the ſouth by

the latter, on the weſt by the ſouth ſea, and on the north by Peru. It is about 1200 miles long, and 350 broad, but much narrower in ſome places.

Q. How is it divided, and which are the chief towns?

A. It is divided into three parts, namely, Chili Proper, Chili Imperial, and Chucuito.—In Chili Proper is St. Jago, the capital of the whole country, a large, rich, and populous city, about 70 miles from Valparaiſo, which is its port, and is therefore much frequented. The other ſeaports in this province are La Serena or Coquimbo, Guaſco, and Copiapo.—The chief town of Chili Imperial is La Conception, a place of great reſort. Baldivia has an excellent harbour, and is well fortified. The other towns are of no great note.—The principal places in Chucuito are Mendoza, St. Juan de la Frontera, and Diamante, which have rich mines near them.

Q. Of what nature is the air, ſoil, &c. of Chili?

Air and Soil.] The air in ſummer is temperate, but very cold in the winter. The vallies produce grain, paſture, and fruits, and the vines brought hither from Spain thrive very well; but great part of the country is mountainous and barren, diſturbed by frequent earthquakes and burning volcanos.

Some of the mountains afford rich mines of gold and ſilver.

COMMODITIES.] Theſe are gold ſilver, copper, tin, lead, quickſilver, honey, hemp, and cattle.

CHARACTER.] The natives are ſtrong, well made, hardy, and the moſt courageous of all the Americans.

GOVERNMENT.] Chili is under a Spaniſh governor ſent from Peru, who reſides either at St. Jago, or La Conception. Some of the Indian nations remain ſtill unſubdued by the Spaniards, others pay them tribute, but none are ſlaves.

SECT. X.

Of PARAGUAY.

Q. HOW is Paraguay bounded, and what is its extent?

A. It is bounded on the eaſt by Braſil, on the weſt by Chili and Peru, on the north by the land of the Amazons, and on the ſouth by Terra Magellanica. Its length is about 1340 miles and its breadth about 1200.

Q. How is it divided, and which are its principal towns?

A. It is divided into ſeven provinces, viz. Paraguay, Proper Quayara, Parana, Uraguay, Rio de la Plata, Tucaman, and Chaco. The capital of the whole is Aſſumption, on the eaſt ſide of the river Paraguay or Rio de la Plata, and in the province of the Proper Paraguay. Some of the beſt Spaniſh families are ſettled in this city, which is populous, and the country about it is very delightful. Buenos Ayres in the province of Rio de la Plata, and about 60 leagues up that river, is a place of great trade. Sante Fé, Santa Lucia, and Corientes all upon the ſame river, are conſiderable towns. Santa Maria is the principal town in Parana, which province is almoſt entirely in the hands of the Jeſuits, where they have amaſſed prodigious wealth.

Q. What account do you give of the air, ſoil, &c. of Paraguay?

AIR and SOIL.] The air is very healthful, and the ſoil fruitful, producing abundance of grain and paſture

COMMODITIES.] Theſe are chiefly gold, ſilver, braſs, iron, hides, tallow, honey, wax, ſugar, amethyſts, and the herb called Paraguay, known in England by the name of ſouth-ſea tea. This herb (or rather ſhrub) is infuſed in hot water, to which it communicates a ſmell and colour much like that

of the beſt tea brought from the Eaſt-Indies. The men could not work in the mines of Peru without drinking this liquor to prevent their being ſuffocated by the poiſonous exhalations ariſing from them.

RARITIES.] In the weſtern part of Tucuman there is a conſiderable ſtream of water runs under a mountain, and riſes on the oppoſite ſide; through which it is ſaid ſome Portugueſe ventured their lives on a raft made of canes, and were near thirty hours in paſſing it.

CHARACTER.] The natives are laborious, and more humane and tractable than moſt of the Americans; the Spaniards have treated them with leſs cruelty than in other places.

GOVERNMENT.] The ſeveral Indian nations have their own chiefs, but are ſubject to the Spaniards, who have a Governor reſiding at Buenos Ayres.

RELIGION.] Many of the natives have been brought to the Romiſh perſuaſion by the Jeſuits; the reſt are idolaters, though they acknowledge one Supreme Being.

SECT. XI.

Of TERRA MAGELLANICA.

Q. HOW is Terra Magellanica bounded, and what is its extent?

A. This country (ſo called from Magellan, who firſt diſcovered it) is bounded on the eaſt by the north ſea, on the weſt by Chili and the ſouth ſea, on the north by Paraguay, and on the ſouth by the ſtreights of Magellan, which ſeparate it from Terra del Fuego. It is about 1150 miles in length, and 500 in breadth.

Q. Which are its chief towns?

A. No Europeans having ſettled here, (though the Spaniards formerly attempted it) there are no towns in the country, the natives dwelling in huts or little villages.

Q. What ſort of a country is this?

A. The coaſts (which are all we know of it) are generally barren, and the air in winter is exceſſively cold.

Q. What ſort of people are the inhabitants?

A. Strange accounts have been given of their gigantic ſize. We know nothing cer-

tain of their government or religion, but probably it is much like that of the other wild Americans.

SECT. XII.

Of the AMERICAN ISLANDS.

Q. WHICH are the chief Islands of America?

A. They may be divided into two classes, viz. those of North America, and those of South America.

I. The chief Islands of North America are,

1. The Cumberland Islands, and some others which lie far North, and are little known.

2. Newfoundland, a large Island in the gulf of St. Laurence, famous for its cod-fishery; its chief town is Placentia; St. John's Island, and Anticosti, Assumption Islands at the mouth of the above-mentioned river, and Cape-Breton taken in 1759 by the English.

3. Long Island and Rhode Island off the

Coaſts of New England and New York, places of conſiderable trade.

4. The Bermudas, a cluſter of ſmall Iſlands, about 300 leagues eaſt of Carolina; otherwiſe called Summer Iſlands, from Sir George Summers, who was ſhipwrecked near them in 1609. They belong to the crown of England, and are remarkable for their wholeſome air. Their chief commodities are cedar-wood, pearl, ambergreaſe, cochineal, and tobacco.

5. The Bahama Iſlands, which lie off the Cape of Florida. The chief of them are Bahama, Long Iſland, Crooked Iſland, and Providence; which laſt belongs to the Engliſh, but moſt of the reſt are under the Spaniards.

6. The Greater Antilles, which are Cuba, Hiſpaniola, Jamaica, and Porto Rico. Cuba is a large Iſland, about 700 miles in length, belonging to the crown of Spain. Its principal towns are the Havanna and St. Jago, the former of which is the reſidence of the Spaniſh Governor, and the uſual rendezvous of the Galleons and other Spaniſh ſhips in their way to Europe. It is a fine city, has an excellent harbour, and is reckoned the ſtrongeſt place the Spaniards have in the Weſt-Indies. The Iſland is much overſpread with woods, and in ſome parts mountainous. Its chief commodities are gold, ſilver, copper, ſugar, cinnamon, ginger, caſſia, aloes, and other drugs.—The weſtern part of Hiſpaniola is

poſſeſſed by the French, where they have great and little Gouave, Leogane, and other ſettlements. The Spaniards poſſeſs the eaſtern part, where they have St. Domingo, the capital of the iſland, a handſome well-fortified city, with a good port. The commodities of the iſland are cattle, hides, ſugar, ginger, cochineal, &c. Jamaica is a rich thriving iſland, poſſeſſed by the Engliſh, who took it from the Spaniards in the time of Oliver Cromwell. Its chief towns are Kingſton, Spaniſh Town, and Port Royal which has an excellent and well defended harbour. Its commodities are ſugar, rum, pepper, cotton, tobacco, indigo, tortoiſe-ſhell, dyers-wood, and ſeveral others.—Porto Rico belongs to the Spaniards, who have a governor at St. Juan de Porto Rico, a ſtrong ſeaport, the capital of the iſland. Its commodities are hides, ſugar, caſſia, ginger, &c.

7. The leſſer Antilles, or Caribbee iſlands, which are numerous. The chief are Barbadoes, Antigua, Montſerrat, Nevis, St. Chriſtopher's, Barbuda, Anguilla, Granada, St. Lucia, Dominica, and a few others belonging to the Engliſh; Martinico, Marigalante, and Guadalupe, to the French; St. Euſtachia, Curaſſao, Bonayre, St. Martin's and St. Aruba, to the Dutch; and Trinidada and Margarita to the Spaniards.—The commodities of theſe iſlands in general (eſpecially thoſe under the Engliſh and French)

are ſugars, rum, tobacco, cotton, ginger, cinnamon, pepper, indigo, and ſeveral ſorts of drugs.

II. The chief iſlands of South America are,

1. Terra del Fuego, a large iſland, ſeparated from the continent by the Streights of Magellan, of which we have very little knowledge. The moſt Southern point of theſe iſlands is called Cape Horn, round which the Europeans now ſail into the South Sea, and not through the Streights above mentioned.

2. Chiloe, near the Coaſt of Chili; on which the Spaniards have a town named Caſtro.

3. Juan Fernandez, off the Coaſt of Chili, a pleaſant fruitful iſland.

4. The Gallapagos, a cluſter of iſlands lying under the equator, off the Coaſt of Peru.

There are many other iſlands ſcattered up and down the South-Sea, and alſo on the Coaſt of Braſil, but none worth mentioning.

SECT. XIV.

Of the UNKNOWN LANDS.

Q. HOW are the Unknown Lands diſtinguiſhed?

A. Into Arctic and Antarctic, with reſpect to their ſituation towards either pole.

Q. Which are the Arctic Lands?

A. They are, 1. Groenland, or Greenland, a large country lying north of Europe and America, viſited by the Europeans in ſummer-time on account of the whale fiſhery on its coaſts. It is inhabited, though extremely cold, mountainous, and generally covered with ſnow. It has bears, rain-deer, and foxes, but few fowls. The natives are of an olive-colour, and are ſuppoſed to worſhip the ſun. 2. Spitzberg, which lies north of Norway, very cold and uninhabited. 3. Nova Zembla, north of Muſcovy. Whether it is an iſland or part of the continent is uncertain. 4. Jeſſo, or Yeſſo, which lies north of Japan.

Q. Which are in the Antarctic Lands?

A. They are, 1. New Guinea, or the land of the Papous, which lies eaſt of the

Molucca Iſlands, near the Equator. 2. New Britain, an Iſland to the eaſt of New Guinea. 3. Carpentaria, ſouth of New Guinea. 4. New Holland, a vaſt country, ſouth of the Molucca Iſlands. 5. Van Diemen's Land to the ſouth eaſt of New Holland. 6. New Zealand, about 20 Degrees to the eaſt of Van Diemen's Land. 7. Terra del Eſpiritu Santo, or Land of the Holy Spirit, about as many degrees to the eaſt of Carpentaria. 8. The land of Quir, or Quiros, not far from the former.

AN

APPENDIX

Containing a ſhort and familiar Account of the principal

NEW DISCOVERIES.

OUR knowledge of the globe has been conſiderably enlarged by the late diſcoveries of the Ruſſians, and ſtill more by thoſe that have been made by Britiſh and other navigators;

NORTHERN ARCHIPELAGO.

THIS lies between the eaſtern coaſt of Kamſchatka and the weſtern coaſt of the continent of America, and is ſometimes

divided into four groups of iſlands. The firſt has five; the ſecond eight; the third has ſixteen taken notice of; and the fourth comprehends ſixteen more, called by the Ruſſians Lyſſic, Oſtrova, or Fox Iſland; the particulars of which muſt be referred to in a larger work. Some of theſe iſlands are only inhabited occaſionally from the others, and for ſome months only in the year. The inhabitants are in general of a ſhort ſtature, with ſtrong and robuſt limbs, but free and ſupple. They have lank black hair, and little beard, flattiſh faces, and fair ſkins. Their clothes are made of the ſkins of birds and ſea-otters. The climate is boiſterous and ſharp. The ſoil produces many wild roots which the natives eat, with the fleſh of ſea animals, though they do not employ themſelves in catching fiſh, which the rivers and ſea abound with; eſpecially ſalmon and turbot.

OTAHITE, CALLED ALSO KING GEORGE's ISLAND.

IS ſituated between the 17th deg. 28 minutes, and the 17th deg. 53 min. ſouth latitude; and between the 149th deg. 11 min. and the 149th deg. 39 minutes weſt longi-

tude. It conſiſts of two peninſulas, of a ſomewhat circular form, joined by an iſthmus, and is ſurrounded by a reef of coral rocks, which form ſome fine bays and harbours, where there is room and depth of water for almoſt any number of the largeſt ſhips. The face of the country is very extraordinary, for a border of low land entirely ſurrounds each peninſula, and behind this border the land riſes in ridges that run up into the middle of theſe diviſions, and theſe form mountains that may be ſeen at ſixty leagues diſtance. The ſoil, except upon the very tops of the ridges, is remarkably rich and fertile, watered by a great number of rivulets, and covered with fruit trees of various kinds, forming delightful groves.

The inhabitants are of a clear olive complexion; the men are tall, ſtrong, well limbed, and finely ſhaped; the women are of an inferior ſize and very comely. Their clothing is of cloth or matting of different kinds. The greateſt part of their food is vegetable ſuch as the iſland produces The Otahieteans believe in one Supreme Deity, but nevertheleſs acknowledge a variety of ſubordinate ones: they offer up their prayers without the uſe of idols, and believe the exiſtence of the ſoul in a ſeparate ſtate, where there are two ſituations of different degrees of happineſs. Though there are few animals for food a-ſhore here, yet the ſea affords the

inhabitants the beſt of fiſh, ſo that they are in no want in that reſpect.

SOCIETY ISLANDS,

BEING about ſix, four of which, being the principal, lie in and about 31 leagues to the north-weſt of Otahiete, and their productions are the ſame, but appear to be a month forwarder. The inhabitants ſeem to be larger made, and more ſtout than thoſe of Otahiete. Their women are fairer, and both ſexes appear leſs timid and leſs curious; though in their dreſs, language, and almoſt every other circumſtance, they are the ſame. Theſe iſlands differ ſomewhat in ſize and fertility.

OHETEROA,

THIS Iſland is ſituated in the latitude of 22 deg. 27 min. ſouth, and in the longitude of 150 deg. 47 min. weſt from Greenwich. It is thirteen miles in circuit, and rather high

than low, but neither ſo populous nor fertile as ſome other iſlands in theſe ſeas. The inhabitants are luſty, and well made, but are rather browner than thoſe of Otahiete.

FRIENDLY ISLANDS,

ARE more than twenty in number, and inhabited by a race of Indians, who cultivate the earth with great induſtry. In fertility and other circumſtances they reſemble the other iſlands in theſe ſeas.

NEW ZEALAND,

CONSISTS of two large iſlands, divided from each other by a narrow ſtrait. They are ſituated between the latitudes of 34 and 48 degrees ſouth, and between the longitude of 166 and 180 degrees from Greenwich. One of theſe iſlands is for the moſt part mountainous, rather barren, and but thinly inhabited; but the other is much more fertile, and of a better appearance. The

inhabitants are ſtout and robuſt, and equal in ſtature to the largeſt Europeans. Their colour is generally brown; and both ſexes have good features. But their dreſs is very uncomely. Though the climate is more mild than that of England, we may eaſily conclude, that their food is a mixture of animal and vegetable.

NEW HEBRIDES,

ARE ſituated between the latitudes of 14 degrees 29 minutes, and 20 degrees 4 minutes ſouth; and between 66 degrees 41 minutes and 170 degrees 21 min. eaſt longitude. There are about eighteen of them. Not far diſtant from theſe is a very large iſland, called New Caledonia. It is about eighty-ſeven leagues long, but its breadth is not conſiderable, not exceeding ten leagues in the wideſt place. It is inhabited by a race of ſtout, tall, well proportioned Indians, of a ſwarthy or dark cheſnut brown. There are two more ſmall iſlands a few leagues diſtant from it.

NEW HOLLAND,

IS of a much larger extent than any other that does not bear the name of a continent, the extending from the 11th to 38th degree of ſouth latitude; and of a great extent eaſt and weſt. It is, as to what we know of it, rather barren than fertile. The inhabitants, who are not numerous, are naked and very uncivilized, of a middle ſtature, extremely active, and their ſkins of a dark cheſnut colour, but their features are not diſagreeable. Their food is chiefly fiſh, birds of various kinds, roots and fruit, and the fleſh of a ſingular quadruped called the Kangaroo. On the weſtern coaſt of this great iſland is Botany Bay and Port Jackſon, whereunto England ſends her convicts.

NEW GUINEA,

IS a long, narrow iſland ſeparated from New Holland by a ſtrait. It runs north-eaſt,

from the ſecond degree of ſouth latitude to the twelfth, and from 131 to 150 degrees eaſt longitude; but in one part it does not appear to be above fifty miles broad. The country conſiſts of a mixture of very high hills and vallies, interſperſed with groves of different fruit trees, with ſuch ſhrubs and plants as are found in the other South-ſea Iſlands. The inhabitants make the like appearance of the New Hollanders on the other ſide of the ſtrait.

NEW BRITAIN,

IS ſituated in the fourth degree of ſouth latitude and 152 degrees 19 minutes eaſt longitude from Greenwich. It is ſeparated from New Guinea by a ſtrait. In this iſland are many high hills, and it abounds with large and ſtately trees. To the eaſtward of New Britain and in the above ſtraits are many iſlands, moſt of which are ſaid to be very fertile, and to abound with fruit-trees peculiar to the iſlands of thoſe ſeas.

NEW IRELAND,

LIES to the north of New Britain, being ſeparated by a ſtrait, which has ſome ſmall iſlands in it of ſome account. It extends in length from the north-eaſt to the ſouth-eaſt about 270 miles, but is in general very narrow. It abounds with a variety of trees and and plants and various ſorts of birds. The inhabitants are black, and woolly headed, like the Negroes of Guinea, but have not flat noſes like them. North-weſtward of New Ireland is a cluſter of iſlands, lying very near each other, and ſuppoſed to conſiſt of about twenty or thirty in number. One of theſe, which is of very conſiderable extent, was named New Hanover; but the reſt of the cluſter received the name of the Admiralty Iſlands.

PRINCE EDWARD's ISLANDS,

IN number two; the larger one is about 15 leagues in circuit, it is in the latitude 46

degrees 55 minutes ſouth, and longitude 37 degrees 46 minutes, the other, about 9 leagues in circuit, latitude 46 degrees 53 minutes, and longitude 38 degrees 8 minutes eaſt from London, both very barren.

SANDWICH ISLANDS,

COMPRISING twelve in number, are ſituate between 22 degrees 15 minutes and 18 degrees 53 minutes north latitude. The air of theſe iſlands is, in general very pleaſant, and many of the vegetable productions are the ſame with thoſe of the Society or Friendly Iſles. The inhabitants are ſtout, and well made, and their complexions in general a brown olive. It was at one of theſe Iſlands, named O'why'hee, that the diſtinguiſhed navigator Captain Cook was killed on his return from his third voyage on diſcovery.

NOTWITHSTANDING the amazing diſcoveries of navigators, and the progreſs made in geography, ſince the firſt voyage of Columbus, in the year 1402, there ſtill remain ſome countries, either abſolutely unknown, or very ſuperficially ſurveyed.

FINIS.

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A

TABLE

OF THE

Longitude and Latitude of ſome of the principal places of the earth; the Longitude being reckoned from the Meridian of London.

N.B. The Latitudes are North, and the Longitudes Eaſt, except where an S. or W. ſhews them to be South or Weſt.

	Lat. ° ′	Long. ° ′
AGRA, Indoſtan	28 30	83 7
Aleppo, Syria	36 14	38 44
Algiers, Barbary	36 49	2 17
Alexandria, Egypt	31 1	34 23
Amſterdam, Holland	52 21	4 40
Athens, Greece,	8 5	25 22
Barcelona, Spain	41 25	1 7
Batavia, Eaſt-Indies	6 15S	100 45
Bengal, Eaſt-Indies	2 00	95 6
Berlin, Pruſſia	52 32	13 31
Breſt, France	48 22	4 45W
Bruſſels, Netherlands	50 51	4 26
Buda, Hungary	47 46	20 2
Cadiz, Spain	36 16	7 30W

	Lat. ° ′	Long. ° ′
Cairo, Egypt	29 50	3 57
Calais, France	50 56	1 35
Cape of Good Hope, Africa	34 30S	17 20
Conſtantinople, in Turky,	41 6	31 30
Copenhagen, Denmark	55 30	12 32
Cracow, Poland	50 10	20 7
Dantzick, Pruſſia	54 20	19 00
Dublin, Ireland	53 12	7 30W
Edinburgh, Scotland	55 47	2 56W
Ferro, one of the Canaries,	28 5	18 22W
Fez, Barbary	33 12	6 7W
Florence, Italy	43 41	11 50
Genoa, Italy	44 26	9 37
Gibraltar, Spain	35 30	4 50
Goa, Eaſt-Indies	15 30	72 6
Hague, Holland	52 4	4 22
Hamburgh, Denmark	53 41	10 22
Halifax, Nova-Scotia	44 40	63 15W
Jeruſalem, Holy land	32 44	35 15
Iſpahan, Perſia	33 2	53 10
Lima, Peru	12 20S	85 22W
Liſbon, Portugal	38 40	10 50W
LONDON	51 32	00 00

	Lat. ° ′	Long. ′ °
Madrid, Spain	40 10	3 36W
Marſeilles, France	43 15	5 40
Martinico Iſle Weſt-Indies	14 44	61 33W
Meſſina, Sicily	38 22	16 30
Mexico, North-America	20 10	105 22W
Moſcow, Muſcovy	55 30	38 45
Naples, Italy	41 45	15 30
Paris, France	48 50	2 7
Pekin, China,	40 00	117 45
Peterſburgh, Ruſſia	59 25	29 50
Philadelphia, America	39 56	75 9
Port-Royal, Jamaica	18 2	77 3W
Quebec, Canada	47 10	70 15
Rome, Italy	41 50	12 37
Rotterdam, Holland	51 50	4 15
Siam, Eaſt-Indies	14 10	100 41
Smyrna, Aſia	38 4	29 6
Stockholm, Sweden	59 30	18 40
Toulon, France	43 7	5 40
Turin, Piedmont	44 50	7 56
Venice, Italy	45 36	12 20
Vienna, Germany	48 22	17 6
Warſaw, Poland	52 12	21 32

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